

Certification/Licensing in Australia and New Zealand

- Accreditation ⇔ Certification
- Common to Australia and New Zealand
- Administered by Australasian College of Physical Scientists and Engineers in Medicine (ACPSEM)
- No government control (other than funding)

Accreditations Available

- AREQA – Accreditation in Radiotherapy Equipment and Quality Assurance (being phased out)
- TEAP – Training, Education and Accreditation Program (radiation oncology, radiology, nuclear medicine)
- Mammography (Certificate)
- Radiation Protection

TEAP

- Started 2003
- Initially set up to accommodate all 3 major disciplines
- Radiation Oncology Physics was 'first of the blocks'
- Enjoyed substantial funding support from the Australian and New Zealand governments

TEAP

- Nominally of 4 – 5 years duration
- Varies according to
 - Past experience
 - Education
 - Academic qualifications

TEAP

- Normally enter with BSc in Physics or a BE
- Program is shortened if have done an MSc or PhD
- Program is modified if have a degree in a different discipline (must have sufficient maths and physics)

TEAP

- Complete an MSc (Medical Physics) in initial stages
- ACPSEM accredits 7 MSc programs for TEAP
- Other MSc (Medical Physics) from overseas may be accepted

TEAP

- Complete about 3 years of in-service training
- Training departments must be accredited
- Requirements may be different for each discipline

TEAP

- Sit written and practical examinations
- Requirements may be different for different disciplines

Licensing

- Generally no formal government-required licensing
- In NZ, every radiation oncology dept must have a Ministry of Health-licensed physicist to operate
- Licensing in all disciplines is probably inevitable in future years in Australia and New Zealand
- In Australia, ACPSEM vets applications from potential immigrants claiming to be medical physicists