

Asia-Oceania Congress of Medical Physics

International Medical Physics Certification Board

**Objectives and Guidelines**

**Raymond K. Wu, PhD**  
Chairman  
IOMP Professional Relations  
Committee

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International Medical Physics Certification Board

**Objectives and Guidelines**

**Co-authors**

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Chairman                      Vice President  
Constituting Panel              IOMP

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**ACMP Initiative**

International Board of Medical Physics  
**Constituting Panel**  
**formed in 2008**  
**after the ACMP Meeting in**  
**Seattle**

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**IOMP Interest**

**IOMP Executive Committee**  
**approved the Work Group on**  
International Medical Physics Certification  
**in 2009**  
**under the PRC**  
Professional Relations Committee  
Chaired by Dr. K. Y. Cheung

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**IOMP Feedback**

- IOMP supports in principle
- ETC will accredit E or T programs
- Be consistent with current models
- Should avoid legal liabilities
- Be consistent with IOMP policies
- Goals – Improves quality of MP
- Benefits patients

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**IOMP Feedback**

- Voluntary model – recognized by hospital only
- Registry / Certification established by professionals and seek directive in force
- Registry / Certification with government directive in force

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**IOMP Feedback**

IOPM Policy No. 1 - The Medical Physicist: Role and Responsibility

IOMP Policy Statement No 2 – Basic Requirements for Education and Training of Medical Physicists

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**AFOMP POLICY STATEMENT NO 1**

**The role, responsibilities and status of the clinical medical physicist in AFOMP**

Australasian Physical & Engineering Sciences in Medicine Volume 32 Number 4, 2009

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**May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2010**

**International Medical Physics Certification Board was born**  
[www.IMPCB.org](http://www.IMPCB.org)

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**Charter Member Organizations**

- National MP organization resolution
- Considers certification body needed
- Plans to use service when available (not mandatory)
- Budget within organization
- One time fee \$100 - \$500
- Commitment to support efforts

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**CHARTER MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS**

KSMP	HKAMP
LAMP	FMOFM
ACMP	IMPS
CSMPT	ABFM
NAMP	ACPSEM
CSMP	

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**July, 2010**

**International Medical Physics Certification Board incorporated in Delaware USA**  
**IMPCB, Inc**

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**Article of Incorporation**

- Improve the practice
- Establish international standards
- Test the competence of candidates
- Issue certificates
- Maintain lists of certified
- Provide assistance to member countries

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**August, 2010**

- Tax Identification Number Provided by US IRS
- Website established – IMPCB.org

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**September, 2010**

**Bank Account**  
with J P Morgan Chase Bank  
Swift code Chasus33  
Managed by IMPCB Treasurer  
Timothy Chiang of Taiwan

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**Other Immediate Jobs**

- Establish bylaws
- Recruit Volunteers
- Elect officers
- Adopt guidelines

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**Guidelines**  
IBMP Constituting Panel  
August 2010 Draft

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**Constituting Panel Draft**

- Certification Process
- Objectives
- Examination format
- Eligibility
- Re-examination

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**Certification Process**

Certification should be by examination, conducted by a country-specific, geographically regional or other designated Medical Physics Certification Board

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**Objectives**

a. To establish minimum standards and improve the practice of medical physics

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**Objectives**

b. To develop standards and procedures for the certification of medical physicists

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**Objectives**

c. To establish and evaluate qualifications of candidates requesting examination for certification

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**Objectives**

d. To arrange, and conduct examinations to test the competence of candidates for certification in the field of medical physics

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**Objectives**

e. To grant and issue certificates in the field of medical physics to applicants who have been found qualified by the Board

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**Objectives**

f. To maintain a registry of holders of such certificates and serve the public by preparing and furnishing lists of medical physicists who have been certified by the Board

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**Examination Format**

It is recommended that the certification examination consist of three parts:  
Candidates will pass both Part I and Part II before taking Part III

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**Guidelines**

Part I is designed to test the competence of the candidate in fundamental aspects of medical physics (General Medical Physics).

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**Guidelines**

Part II is designed to determine the competence of the candidate in a specialty area of medical physics,

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**Guidelines**

Part III is designed to determine the candidate's knowledge and fitness to practice clinical medical physics in a designated specialty

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**Medical Physics**

- Radiation Oncology Physics
- Medical Imaging Physics
- Nuclear Medicine Physics
- Non-ionizing Radiation Physics
- Medical Health Physics
- Physiological Measurements

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**Eligibility – Part I**

Education – Masters or Doctorate in physics, medical physics or an equivalent degree in an appropriate physical or engineering science discipline.  
Professional Training – none required

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**Eligibility – Part II**

Professional Training – 2 years full-time equivalent training preceding the date of application for examination

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**Eligibility – Part II**

Training should be carried out under the supervision of a Certified Medical Physicist (CMP) specializing in the same sub-field or under the supervision of a qualified individual with a level of professional experience and expertise equivalent to that of a CMP

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**Part III**

Oral Examination  
Medical Physics Specialty  
Prerequisites – successfully passed Parts I and II

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**Re-examination**

A candidate who fails to pass any Part of the three-part examination may petition to be re-examined in that Part within one year from the previous attempt

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**Re-examination**

If any Part of the examination has been taken unsuccessfully three times, the candidate should be required to reapply for the entire sequence of examinations

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**Constituting Panel Draft  
to be continued**

- Life long learning guidelines
- Core functions of IMPCB
- Financial model
- Other concerns

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**Immediate Tasks**

- Publicize initiative in MPW
- Plan a session for ICMP in Brazil – April 17 - 19, 2011
- Establish bylaws
- Recruit Volunteers
- Elect officers
- Set up service structures
- ...

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**Thank you**

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**Years to Certification**

The CP's model will likely take 6 years, as illustrated below -  
Based on the examination schedules of August for Part I and Part II, and May for Part III. The shortest time to complete the certification process is 6 years, as shown below:

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**Years to Certification**

- Sept 2011 - student enters advanced MP program for a Master's degree
- June 2013 - student graduates, and applies to take Part I but does not know if accepted by a clinical training program
- Sept 2013 - candidate starts clinical training program

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**Years to Certification**

- Aug 2014 - candidate takes Part I and passes
- June 2015 - candidate completes clinical training program and applies to take Part II
- Aug 2016 candidate takes Part II and passes
- May 2017 candidate takes Part III

The 6-year process may be reduced to 5 year if the processing time to register for the Part II examination can be cut to 2 months

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**Years to Certification**

Part I and Part II may be administered together. But the candidate will have to wait till June 2015 to apply to take the first examination, after the completion of clinical training.

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**Thank you**

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