

Session Title: Ethics: Codes and Dilemmas (The Ins and Outs of the Revised AAPM Code of Ethics)

Session Organizer: Christina Skourou

Invited Speakers / Order of presentation: P Halvorsen, C Skourou

Tentative Timeslot: Monday, July 30, 2018 | 1:45 - 2:45 PM

While the fundamental principles of ethical conduct remain intact in a realm of technological and societal changes, the professional roles and responsibilities of the AAPM members change and the Code of Ethics requires updating to reflect these new changes and realities. The current version of the Code has played a significant role in the introduction of ethics and professionalism instruction in the workplace and in medical physics educational and training programs. However, Task Group 109 has identified areas that have either caused confusion to the members, or have failed to provide adequate and consistent guidance based on membership feedback and review of past cases discussed by the Ethics Committee.

These areas of ambiguity were addressed by the Task Group, following consultation of the general membership and thoughtful deliberation. The revised text has been reviewed by AAPM leadership as well as the general membership, whose feedback is reflected in the new, revised Code of Ethics. This presentation will inform AAPM members of the new structure of the Code of Ethics and its role in AAPM governance as well as being a guide for members in carrying out their day-to-day practice in a safe, ethical and effective way. The principles and values included in the Code will be discussed in detail and will be supported by the examination of several scenarios.

Learning Objectives:

1. Understand content and purpose of the revised AAPM Code of Ethics
2. Understand how to use it as a guide in implementing a framework for ethical decision making
3. Understand how AAPM addresses ethical issues and Complaints