Clinical Medical Physicist Perspectives on Scope of Practice, Ethics, and Liability

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Outlines and Objectives

• In this talk we will look at:

➤ Overview of the qualifications of a Clinical Medical Physicist
➤ Clinical Sub-specialties
➤ Ethics: Values and Principles, Behaviors
➤ Professionalism and Professional Development
➤ Relationships with Other Professionals
➤ Current Code of Ethics: AAPM and COMP
Qualifications of a Clinical Medical Physicist

CERTIFICATION ELIGIBILITY

Start

CAMPEP Grad. Program M.Sc/PhD
ABR: part 1?

CAMPEP Residency Program
ABR: Part 1?

EXAMS
ABR: part 2 and Oral
CCPM: Written and Oral

Are we there yet?
Congratulations
You are now a Certified/Qualified Medical Physicist
What We do

- Patient Care
- Reduce Dose
- Image Quality
- Dose Estimate
- QA/QC
- Teaching
- Research
- Teaching
Team

- Physicians (Radiologist)
- Medical Imaging Technologists
- Medical Physicist
- Physics Assistant/QC tech Students
Clinical Sub-specialties

• CCPM
  1. Diagnostic Radiological Physics
  2. Nuclear Medicine Physics
  3. Radiation Oncology Physics
  4. Magnetic Resonance Imaging

• ABR
  1. Diagnostic Medical Physics
  2. Nuclear Medical Physics
  3. Therapeutic Medical Physics

Exam Flow:
- Certification Exam
- Mammography
- No Exam
AAPM/COMP Ethics and Professional standards

Values and Principles

Behaviors
Values and Principles

a. Respect
Recognizing, celebrating and valuing the uniqueness of each patient interest/resident/student, co-worker, discipline, workplace and community.

b. Integrity:
Valuing and facilitating honesty and open communication across members “AAPM/COMP” and other healthcare communities.
Values and Principles

c. Fairness:
Valuing and facilitating equity and justice in the allocation of our resources.

d. Connectedness:
Recognizing and celebrating the strength of each member, both within and beyond the structure, that creates the whole of medical physics career.
Values and Principles

e. Excellence:
Valuing and promoting the pursuit of excellence among All members.

f. Trust:
avoidance of personal gratification or gains at the expense of anyone.
Behaviors

Professionalism:

must maintain appropriate professional boundaries with colleagues, students, and with all to whom they minister, through relationships of mutual trust, privacy and confidentiality.

avoid entering into relationships or situations that may diminish their ability to maintain professional integrity and independence.
Behaviors

Professional Development:

commit themselves to ongoing personal and professional development, including performance appraisal and peer review, must accept responsibility for their own spiritual, emotional, physical and mental health.
Behaviors

Confidentiality:

• comply with the Clinic Policy on Privacy and Confidentiality.
• ensure all medical records are stored or disposed of in a manner that assures security and confidentiality.
Medical Physicist Relationships with Other Professionals

• We recognize that we are part of a network of professional Healthcare workers and are expected to develop and maintain professional relationships. To this end:

a. We seek to support and respect other professionals.
b. We exercise professional protocol when receiving or initiating referrals.
Conclusion: AAPM/COMP Ethics and Professional standards

• Elements of professionalism “honesty, integrity, excellence, duty, accountability, respect for others”
• Do’s and don’ts of professionalism
• Interactions with colleagues and co-workers
• Interactions with patients and the public
• Confidentiality
Regulating Medical Physicists in the United States and Canada

• Canada: Medical physics is not yet a regulated profession in any province; therefore certification is not legally required in order to practice medical physics.

• USA: there are Four states regulate the licensure of medical physicists: New York, Texas, Hawaii, and Florida
limitations of the current COE:

Section 4. Complaint Procedure

I. Submitting a Complaint
II. Accepting a Complaint
III. Reviewing a Complaint
IV. Deciding on a Complaint
V. Outcomes of a Complaint Procedure
VI. Appealing the Decision of the Ethics Committee
VII. Records of Complaints

HOW TO USE THIS DOCUMENT

This document is organized into four sections.

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Thank you