

Section 135(a) of the *Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act* (MIPPA), passed in 2008, calls for advanced diagnostic imaging accreditation, by January 1, 2012, of all facilities (excluding hospitals) that bill the technical component of diagnostic MRI, CT, and nuclear medicine such as PET services. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has approved three national accreditation organizations to provide these services: the American College of Radiology (ACR), the Intersocietal Accreditation Commission (IAC), and The Joint Commission. This presentation will briefly overview the MIPPA requirements for MR accreditation as well as the three accreditation organization options that can satisfy those requirements. The process for the accreditation organization that has been most commonly utilized to date, the ACR MR Accreditation Program, will then be reviewed in more detail.

Following this presentation, the attendee should:

1. understand the MIPPA Advanced Diagnostic Imaging Accreditation requirements and choices of accrediting organizations
2. understand the current clinical and physics requirements of the modular ACR MRI accreditation program
3. understand the specific ACR program requirements for medical physicists / MRI scientists, including CME requirements
4. understand the testing requirements for both the large and small ACR MR accreditation phantoms, and
5. understand the annual physics testing requirements for the ACR MR accreditation program