

56th Annual Meeting of AAPM, 20 - 25 July 2014
International Day of Medical Physics (21 July)

IOMP and IDMP: Why An International Day of Medical Physics?

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www.iomp.org



1963- Founded with 4 national member organizations (Canada, Sweden, UK, USA)

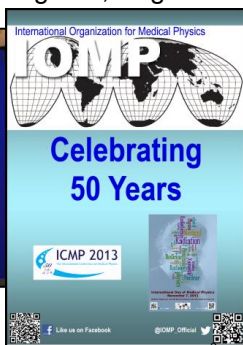
2013- 84 national member organizations (with more than 18000 medical physicists)

6 regional organizations (AFOMP, ALFIM, EFOMP, FAMPO, MEFOMP, SEAFOMP)



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2013- 50th Anniversary
Celebration at ICMP2013, Brighton, England



IOMP Mission

To advance medical physics practice worldwide by

- disseminating scientific and technical information,
- fostering the educational and professional development of medical physics, and
- promoting the highest quality medical services for patients



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Collaborations with International Statutory Organizations

To address issues on medical physics in healthcare.

- WHO- Working closely on radiation & equipment safety and appropriate technology in healthcare. Signed an MOU in 2010.
- IAEA- Working very closely in improving medical physics in radiation medicine. IOMP participate in many IAEA projects, including drafting of the IAEA BSS and other guidance documents.
- ILO- Collaborating on professional recognition of medical physicists.



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Collaboration with International Professional Organizations

- International Radiation Protection Association (IRPA)
 - Signed memorandum of understanding in 2010
- International Society of Radiology (ISR)
- International Commission on Radiation Protection (ICRP)
- International Commission on Radiation Units (ICRU)
- Bureau International des Poids et Mesures (BIPM)



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Key Issues in Medical Physics in Health Care

- Medical physics profession is not very well established in all countries or in all medical institutions
- Formal professional training system/infrastructure for MP is not available in most countries
- Large variation in standard of practice in different countries & within countries
- MP are not regulated in most countries as health professionals- professional standard is voluntary & subjective
- Generally lack of official recognition and public awareness on MP
- MP services mainly confined to radiology & radiotherapy, the needs in other medical specialties are generally not served



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Contributing Factors

- The important role of MP in healthcare is not fully recognized
- MPs in healthcare are in general invisible to patients, other health professionals and administration
- MP have unclear identity in clinical service- Are they scientists or health professionals?
- They are trained as scientists rather than health professionals
- Most of them are not regulated and do not have state recognition (all established health professionals are regulated)



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IOMP Strategy in Addressing These Issues

- Issue guideline on strengthening and formalizing E&T system
- Promote continued professional development in order to maintain & improve the standard of practice of MP
- Promote state recognition of the profession and the importance of their work in healthcare
- Raising the visibility and identify of MP in healthcare and in the public communities
- Support the special needs of MP in developing countries
- ...



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Initiatives in Strengthening Professional Identity and State Recognition

- Promote global implementation of professional certification
- Raise official recognition of medical physicists as professionals
- Promote state registration on scope of practice
- Defining responsibilities and professional competency
- Defining format and structure for education & professional training of MP



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International Professional Certification

IOMP in collaboration with a number of NMOs formed the International Medical Physics Certification Board (IMPCB).

Aims:

- Accredit National Certification Programs
- Assist Countries to establish certification programs
- Conduct International Board Examinations?



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International Medical Physics Certification Board



www.impcb.org

- President: Colin Orton (USA)**
- CEO: Raymond Wu (USA)**
- Secretary General: Ti-Chuang Chiang (Taiwan)**
- Chief Examiner: Tomas Kron (Australia)**

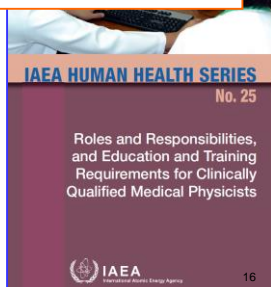


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IOMP Policy Statement No. 2
Basic Requirements for Education and Training of Medical Physicists

IOMP Working Group on Policy Statement No. 2¹
 10 August, 2010
 Approved by the IOMP Council in WC 2012, Beijing, China

Two important guidance documents developed by IOMP or contributed by IOMP on education & professional training of medical physicists



Professional Recognition of Medical Physicists By International Labour Organization (ILO)

ILO classifies Medical Physicists as professionals under unit group 2111 "Physicists and Astronomers" in the new edition of International Standard Classification of Occupations ISCO-08 (<http://www.ilo.org/public/english/bureau/stat/isco/isco88/index.htm>)

In relation to health professionals: "... medical physicists are considered to be an integral part of the health work force alongside those occupations classified in sub-major group 22, Health professionals ..."

Recognition by ILO (an UN agency) paved the way for official recognition of MPs as professionals by member states.



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Supports for Developing Countries

- Organize/sponsor scientific and education and training workshops and symposia on medical physics and radiation safety
- Travel assistance for MPs to attend scientific conferences & training programs
- Support the formation and development of national MP organizations
- Library Program (in collaboration with AAPM)
- Equipment Donation Program (in collaboration with AAPM)
- ...



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International Scientific Exchange Program (ISEP)

Since 1992, in collaboration with AAPM conducted a total of 35 training courses/workshops in developing countries:

- 22 Therapy Physics courses/workshops
- 13 Diagnostic & Nuclear Medicine Physics courses/workshops

Current Program Chair: Cheng B. Saw (AAPM)



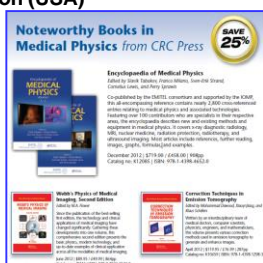
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IOMP Library Program

Started in 1989, currently 77 libraries in developing countries.

Library Curator: Dr. Allan Wilkinson (USA)

- Solicit donated books and journals & ship to IOMP libraries
- Agreement with Taylor & Francis on publication of IOMP Series (Medical Physics & Biomedical Engineering series):
 - For every new publication in the Series, donation of 10 books to IOMP libraries
 - 25% discount for all IOMP members
 - ...



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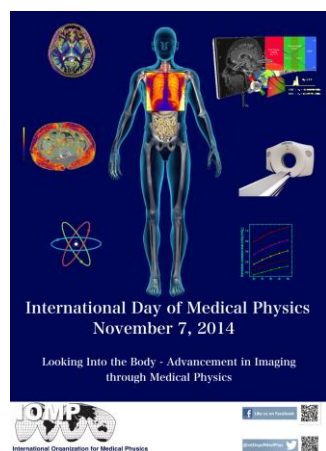
Key Initiatives in Raising the Visibility & Awareness of MP in the Communities

- Collaboration with national and international organizations (e.g. IAEA, WHO, ILO) in sensitizing state agencies on the important role of MP and their training and developmental needs
- Expand collaborative network with professional organizations, e.g. IRPA, ISR, ESR, ESTRO, ...
- Promote the release of public educational materials
- **International Day of Medical Physics (IDMP)**



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IDMP 2014

Main theme: "Looking Into the Body- Advancement in Imaging Through Medical Physics"

You are invited to join celebrating the event, either organizing your own national or local activities or collaborate with others.

www.iomp.org

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Thank you!



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