



**WORLD
CONGRESS**
ON
MEDICAL PHYSICS AND
BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING

世界医学物理与生物医学工程大会

World Congress on Medical Physics and Biomedical Engineering

www.wc2012.org | *Beijing • China* | *May 26-31, 2012*

Guidance on Certification of Medical Physicists: preliminary IAEA report

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IAEA

International Atomic Energy Agency

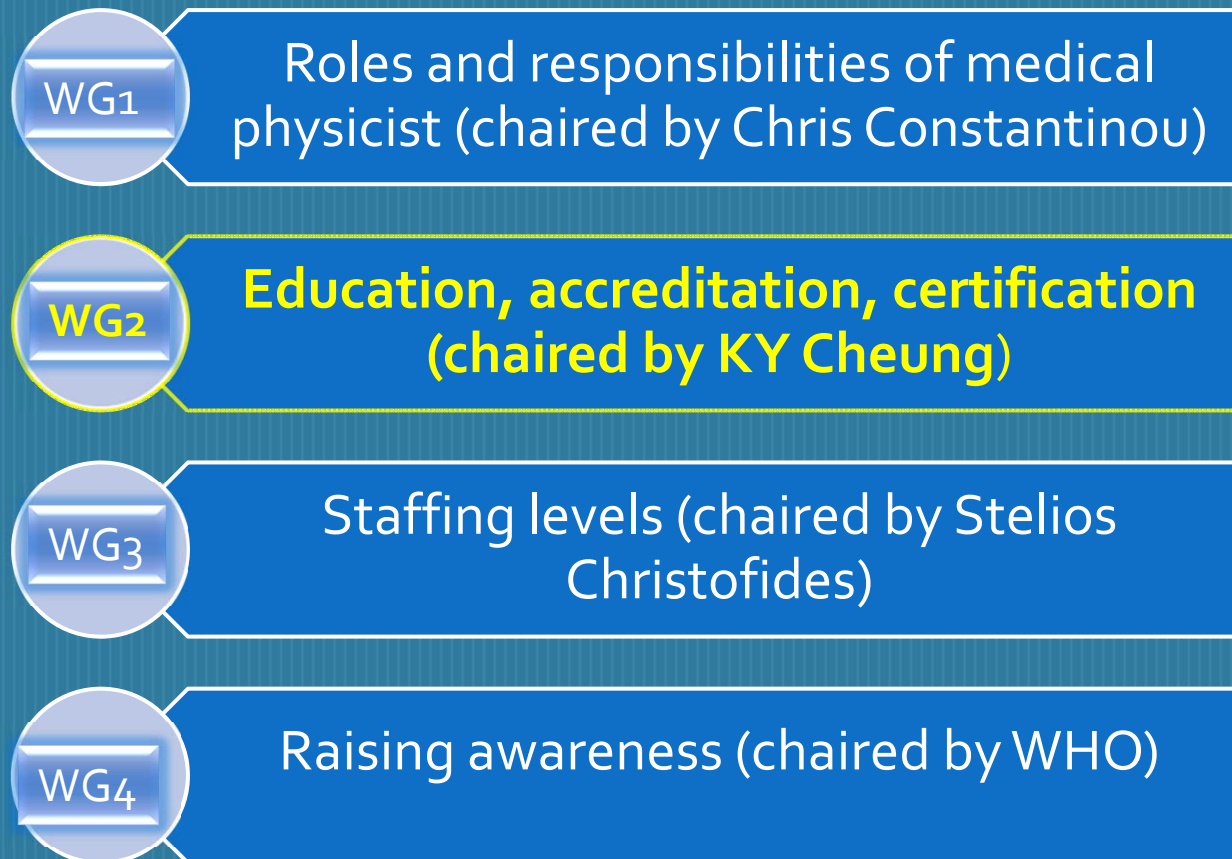
Atoms for Peace

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“Strengthening Medical Physics in Radiation Medicine”
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Background on IAEA INT/6/054-3

The INT/6/054 project working process: working groups



Current status on Certification of Medical Physicists-1

Conclusions of an INT/6/054 survey conducted by WG2:

Responding countries

- Asia and Oceania: 16
- Mediterranean Europe: 3
- Middle East: 7
- Africa: 8
- Latin America: 8

Current status on Certification of Medical Physicists-2

Results

1. 11 countries (26%) have established a professional certification system
2. 5 countries (12%) have established a mandatory certification system
3. 6 countries have established a voluntary certification system

Current status on Certification of Medical Physicists-2

Main reasons for lack of certification

- No formal system for clinical training of MPs. For this reason, the role and responsibilities of MPs, the level of their professional competency and the manpower requirement are not well defined or established in these countries.
- The number of MPs is too small.

Main INT/6/054 recommendations on Certification of Medical Physicists-1

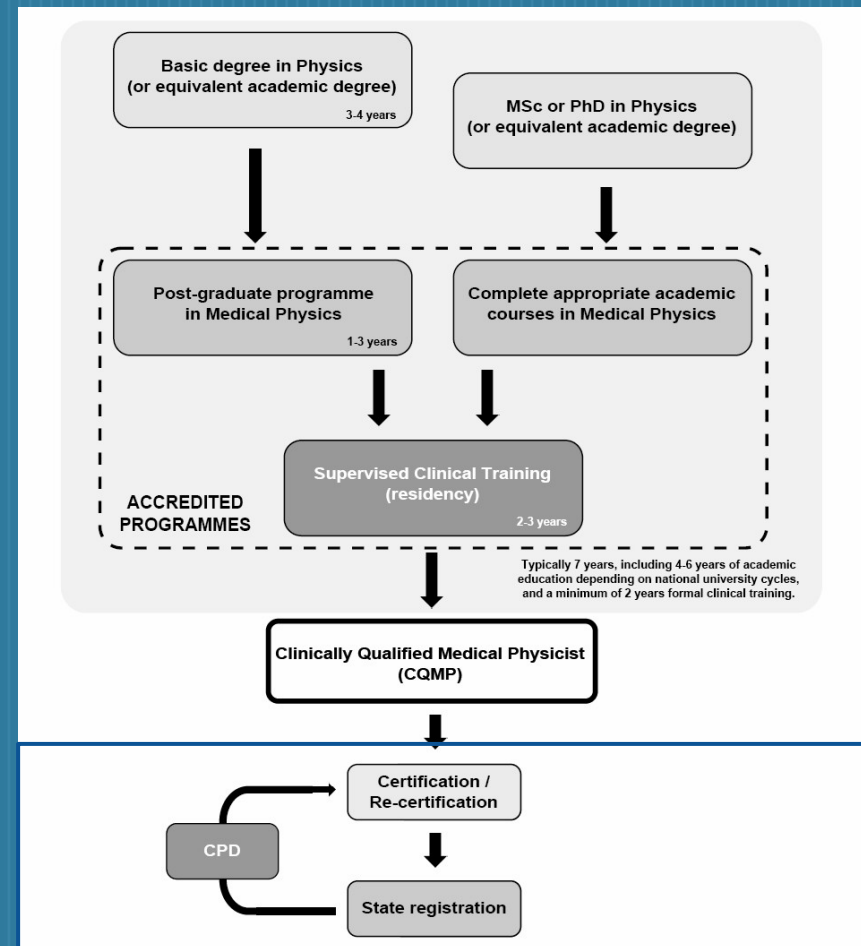
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- The recommendations were finalized during an IAEA meeting of WG1 and WG2 in November 2011
- The recommendations are undergoing a review process



WG1 & WG2 meeting, IAEA
Vienna, Nov. 2011

Main INT/6/054 recommendations on Certification of Medical Physicists-2

1. Certification of Clinically Qualified Medical Physicists should be mandatory before clinical practice
2. Professional certification should be conducted by national boards (professional, health committees, etc.)



Main INT/6/054 recommendations on Certification of Medical Physicists-3

3. International boards could provide harmonized guidelines on standards, requirements and format of certification and review/assess/accredit national certification systems

4. Professional organizations should share expertise, experience and resources on certification systems

5. Countries with no certification system may start with a voluntary system and move later to a mandatory one.

Main INT/6/054 recommendations on Certification of Medical Physicists-4

6. Countries with a small number of medical physicists and/or shortage of trainers could consider having their CQMPs obtaining certifications from neighbouring countries where board certification systems exist

7. Countries that are already running voluntary certification systems should move to a mandatory one

8. The process of certification should lead to that of registration, where records of certified professionals are maintained in a national database.

Main INT/6/054 recommendations on Certification of Medical Physicists-5

9. Countries should establish a Continued Professional Development system to maintain professional competency for certified CQMPs

Next steps

Adoption and
publication of
INT/6/054
guidelines

Distribution to
counterparts:
societies, MoH,
RP authorities...

Awareness
seminars

Support
Member States
for
Implementation

Acknowledgements

IAEA activities are designed and implemented by teams, the contribution of all staff involved is acknowledged



Acknowledgements

INT/6/054 WG1 & WG2 members

- Kin Yin Cheung, IOMP
- Maria Esperanza Castellanos Lopez, Colombia
- Maria Ester Brandan, Mexico
- Christodoulos Constantinou, Cyprus
- Pedro Andreo, Sweden
- Maria do Carmo Lopes, Portugal
- George Frey, AAPM
- Shada Ramahi, Jordan
- Taofeeq Abdallah Ige, Nigeria
- Wojciech Bulski, Poland
- Anchali Krisanachinda, Thailand
- Wil Van der Putten, EFOMP
- Marta Wasilewska-Radwanska, EFOMP



- Debbie van der Merwe, IAEA
- Joanna Izewska, IAEA
- John Leheron, IAEA
- Ahmed Meghzifene, IAEA
- Stig Palm
- Don McLean
- Adam Kesner
- Fernando Yip

THANK YOU

