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This presentation will review some personal experiences with helping the Hong Kong Association of Medical Physics (HKAMP) establish their Medical Physics Board certification program. Their Board certification program arose when they were preparing to initiate a Medical Physics Residency Program: they decided to make Parts I and II of the Board exams part of the requirements for graduation from a residency program.

The certification program was endorsed by the HKAMP in January 2005 and 47 experienced members were granted Inaugural Certification. A variety of procedures and guidance documents were prepared and the 1st Part I "general" exam was given in December 2005. All the documents and the exam were first vetted by an External Examiner (me, and in subsequent years Stu Bushong and Bruce Thomadsen). The content of the exam was equally divided between radiotherapy physics, imaging physics, engineering physics, and radiation safety and protection. For the 1st Part I exam there were 80 multiple choice questions, but this has now been increased to 100. To date, there have been four Part I exams given and the current pass rate is about 70%. The 1st part II exam (oral, specific specialty) was conducted in January 2007, with subsequent exams in January 2008 and February 2009. Drs. Bushong, Thomadsen and I have been External Examiners for these. The current pass rate is about 80%.

Upon satisfactory completion of these two exams, candidates must then complete at least two years of supervised professional practice and submit a portfolio of their work for assessment to, and appear before, a Professional Assessment Panel in order to demonstrate that they have achieved the required level of knowledge and competence to practice. Only then are they granted certification.

A continuing professional development scheme is being devised to ensure continued competence of practitioners. This will be similar to those of other professional institutions such as the Hong Kong Academy of Medicine.