



EFOMP News

European Federation of Organisations for Medical Physics

EFOMP system for registration and recognition of registration schemes

EFOMP has as its principal objective to harmonise and promote the best practice of Medical Physics in Europe. EFOMP aims to achieve uniformly high standards of training and performance of all medical physicists in all of its member organisations. Furthermore EFOMP wishes to see some kind of recognition when these standards are met.

In 1995 EFOMP published a policy statement on Recommended Guidelines on National Registration Schemes for Medical Physicists (Physica Medica vol X1, December 1995 or on the EFOMP homepage). This policy statement describes a set of criteria to be fulfilled for a registration system to be approved by EFOMP.

EFOMP has set up a Standing Committee on Registration to look at the applications for approval.

The main criteria for approval are:

Training and education in agreement with EFOMP policy statements, renewal mechanism based on a CPD system and agreed rules of professional conduct.

At present the following National Member Organisations of EFOMP have received approval of their registration system:

Austria, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Spain, Switzerland, The Netherlands and UK.

EFOMP highly recommends to all other member organisations to set up a registration system. The Standing Committee on Registration has developed a questionnaire to simplify the amount of information to be supplied for approval of registration schemes. The Committee is willing to help in setting up a registration scheme and can provide a standard set-up on request.

Approved registration systems help to demonstrate that medical physics is a regulated profession in Europe.

Kjeld Olsen (Chairman of the Standing Committee on Registration)

AAPM/EFOMP-Symposium on „Advances in Imaging and Radiation Therapy“

Nuremberg, 12.- 13.09.2005

The European Federation of Organizations for Medical Physics (EFOMP) and the American Association of Medical Physics (AAPM) started to strengthen their relations and to cooperate on a broader basis by organizing a Scientific Symposium „Advances in Imaging and Radiation Therapy“ as a pre-meeting to the international conference on Medical Physics in Nuremberg (ICMP2005), Germany.

The first day was devoted to “Imaging for Radiation Oncology”. The introduction into the clinical demands for diagnosis and monitoring therapy response was given by Markus Schwaiger from Munich. Wolfgang Nitz (Erlangen) held a comprehensive introduction into the advances in Magnetic Resonance Imaging, especially with respect to imaging at 3 and 7 T. The progress in Molecular Imaging was illustrated in a very exciting contribution from Gary Fullerton (San Antonio/Texas). Willi Kalender (Erlangen) reported on the advances in Clinical CT Imaging Technology, together with David Jaffray (Toronto), who gave a thorough insight into Cone-Beam-CT with flat panel imagers applied to radiation therapy. The imaging session was completed by David Townsend (Knoxville) with an overview lecture on the advances in PET/CT Fusion Imaging.

The second day was devoted to “Advances in Radiation Therapy”. Craig Stevens from Houston (Texas) presented a summary on the clinical demands of imaging in radiation therapy. Katja Langen (Orlando) gave a brilliant overview on the current knowledge in uncertainties in radiation therapy planning and delivery.

Three excellent lectures were given by Uwe Oelfke (Heidelberg), John Wong (Baltimore) and George Chen (Boston), demonstrating the challenges in time-adapted and biological adapted radiation therapy. In the same context, the advances in IMRT and image guided radiation therapy with Tomotherapy was presented by Rock Mackie from Madison, Wisconsin.

Besides IMRT and adaptive radiotherapy, another focus of this day was radiotherapy with charged particles: Tony Lomax (Villigen) and Gerhard Kraft (Darmstadt) gave introductions into proton therapy and radiotherapy with carbon ions. A lively counterpoint debate “IMRT vs. proton therapy” was opened with contributions from Jatinder Palta (Gainesville), Klaus Herfarth (Heidelberg) and Andre Wambersie (Brussels).

The symposium brought together renowned faculty from Europe and from America and provided an up-to-date overview on the state of the art and on the latest developments in imaging and therapy related to radiation oncology. It was an excellent idea of Willi Kalender, the organizer of the meeting, to bring experts from both disciplines together in order to discuss the common demands and possibilities of integrating modern imaging techniques into radiation oncology.

In summary, the meeting demonstrated the steadily increasing importance of morphological, biological and 4D imaging in radiation oncology.

Wolfgang Schlegel (President elect of EFOMP)