

Education and Training Requirements for the Certification of Medical Physicists in Korea

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Since its foundation in 1990, Korea Society of Medical Physics (KSMP) KSMP has devoted to settle the medical physics program, to enhance the quality of education and practice of medical physics, to promote the continuing competence of the qualified medical physicist, and to improve the benefit of the medical physics community in Korea.

For the academic education, more than 5 universities offer academic programs in medical physics leading to a master's or doctor's degree in Korea. In addition to the education program, practical experience with medical problems is also required in order to become a qualified medical physicist. This experience is acquired through a residency traineeship or postdoctoral program of two or four years in a hospital. Currently, there are two KSMP accredited medical physics residency program.

KSMP established certification program and provide exams for the candidates who have completed education and clinical training requirements. Once they meet the eligibility requirements, they will take two written and oral exams.

At present, there are 50 certified medical physicists in the field of therapeutic radiological physics, 3 in diagnostic radiological physics and 3 in medical nuclear physics.

Although KSMP has put enormous effort in development of education, training and certification program over the 20 years, it is not fully recognized by related societies. Therefore, KSMP has joined as a charter member country of the international medical physics certification board. KSMP expects to receive support in establishing education, training, and certification program and accredited by foreign international parties such as IOMP.

KSMP is working to establish some form of national certification or licensure law for medical physicists and hope to be legalized(enact) by Government in near future.