

BHPA Recommendation on the Delegation of Medical Physics Tasks in Belgium

Establishing Medical Physics Assistance (MPA)

The Belgian Hospital Physicist Association is in favour of establishing a legal framework that allows the delegation of tasks belonging to the medical physics domain to non-MPEs under the supervision and responsibility of the MPE. We believe that creating a framework for *Medical Physics Assistance* (MPA) is the only realistic way to ensure proper quality management of the medical application of ionizing radiation.

However, the current legal framework does not allow the delegation of tasks by the MPE and as a consequence there are no roles defined for people performing MPA tasks. Moreover it is not unambiguously defined what the exclusive responsibilities are of the MPE, nor are the joined responsibilities with the medical staff.

In our view, these are prerequisites that must be met before a MPE can delegate tasks.

- Clear definition of the exclusive and joined responsibilities of the MPE and the medical practitioners involved in patient dosimetry.
- Clear definition of MPE, medical physicist, dosimetrist, RTT and other terms in common use
- Clear staffing guidelines for medical physics.
- Well-defined MPA tasks per domain.
- Well-defined minimum curricular requirements per domain for MPA tasks
- Registration of and a mandatory accredited continuous education program for people performing MPA tasks

In addition, we need to recognize the valuable work that currently is already done by our non-MPE colleagues. Any regulation that puts into place a framework for the delegation of MPE tasks will have to implement a fair transition. In this light, we urge for an immediate system of registration of people currently performing tasks that in a new legislation would be considered MPA tasks. This register should serve as an important tool for future transition to an official framework.