Meeting of
THE STATE COMMITTEE
FOR MEDICAL PHYSICS
Thursday June 4, 2026
1411 Broadway and NYSED Remote Conferencing Sites

Mr. Boese called the meeting to order at 2:00 PM.

Committee Members Present: Richard Harvey, Thomas Petrone (Attending Remotely), Michael Schell, and Pat Zanzonico.

Committee Members Absent: Joseph Mazzie, DO.

NYSED Staff Present: Stephen Boese, Executive Secretary for the State Committee; Michelle Pawlowski, Education Credentials Specialist 2; Carla Gibbons, Education Program Assistant 2; and Lee Fitzgerald, Education Program Assistant 2

Guests Present: Extended Members Klaus Hamacher and Robert Pizzutiello, Stephanie Maes and Kelly Murphy from the NYSED Professions Connections Unit.

Welcome and Introductions:

Unfortunately, there is no quorum at the meeting today, so members will not be able to approve the meeting minutes or vote on other board matters. Today the committee will meet to have an informal discussion to answer scope of practice questions from the general public.

Since the previous meeting, three new members have joined the committee. This is Dr. Richard Harvey's first meeting, and Dr. Pat Zanzonico's first meeting.

Richard P. Harvey is licensed in NYS in Medical Physics, Medical Health Physics. Dr. Harvey is Director of Radiation Safety at Roswell Park. Dr. Harvey is nationally board certified in medical physics and presents numerous certifications and official recognition of his status as one of the leading medical health physicists in the country. Dr. Harvey earned a DrPH in Radiological Health from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, and a MS in Health Physics and a BS in Nuclear Medicine Technology from the State University of New York at Buffalo.

Dr. Pat Zanzonico Ph.D. is a licensed nuclear medical physicist and attending physicist and member of the Departments of Medical Physics and Radiology at the Memorial Sloan Cancer Center. He earned a BS in physics from Cooper Union and a Ph.D. in Biophysics from Cornell University. Dr. Zanzonico is Board Certified in Nuclear Medical Physics by the American Board of Radiology. He was nominated and highly recommended by our previous nuclear medical physicist member, Klaus Hamacher.

Klaus Hamacher and Bob Pizzutiello are Extended Members of the Committee who are sitting in today. Extended members are emeritus members of the board who attend moral character

hearings for initial license applicants as well as disciplinary hearings for existing licensees. Extended Members are not required to attend board meetings, and they are unable to vote on board matters, but they are welcome to attend the meetings and join the discussion if they choose to.

Licensure Update:

The committee members review the statistics for medical physics licenses issued in the last 5 years. In 2025, 34 people were issued licenses in the specialty of Diagnostic Radiological Physics. Typically, less than 10 of these licenses are issued in a given year, so this is a significant increase from the norm. The statistics for the other three specialties are consistent with previous years. This information is publicly available on the NYSED OP website.

Licensure Review Process:

Carla Gibbons, who reviews the experience requirement for initial license applicants, provides the committee with a brief background on the license application process for medical physicists. Applicants would begin by submitting the Form 1 – Application for Licensure. This collects information on the applicant's background and also creates a digital file for them in our system. As their other verifications come in, those documents can be synced up with their digital file. Applicants must also arrange for verifications of their education, their examination scores and their experience to be sent to the education department directly from the institutions.

Accredited education (CAMPEP) can be automatically accepted without additional review. For applicants who attended a non-accredited program, their transcripts must be reviewed by our Comparative Education Unit (Comped). Comped would review the transcripts to determine if the applicant's education meets the requirements for licensure. This criteria is based on the regulations which were created by the medical physics committee. If the committee were to decide in the future that this criteria should be updated– the regulations can be changed through the Board of Regents.

Medical Physics experience must be in the same specialty in which the applicant seeks licensure, and they must have also been supervised by a medical physicist licensed in the same specialty. Applicants must show at least 2 years of relevant experience that was completed within the past 5 years. Applicants would verify their experience through forms 4 and 4a. Form 4 is a written attestation where the applicant lists a comprehensive history of all of their experience. Form 4a is a verification directly from the training program signed by the supervisor. The applicant must arrange to have separate Form 4as sent from each institution where they are seeking to have experience counted.

Update from the Office of the Professions:

Stephen Boese provides an update from NYSED OP. David Hamilton, the former OP Deputy Commissioner, has retired. An interim deputy commissioner, Dr. Owen Donovan has replaced him.

The Department is actively soliciting nominations for individuals interested in appointment as a professional member of the Committee for Medical Physics.

Professional members must be licensed and registered to practice. Applications for board membership may be submitted directly by interested individuals, or nominations may come from colleagues, consumer groups, professional associations, or others. The committee has two immediate vacancies for a licensed physician who specializes in radiation therapy or radiation oncology, and a licensed physician who specializes in nuclear medicine. Additionally, Mr. Schell will reach the end of his two terms in October, leading to a vacancy for a medical physicist licensed in therapeutic radiological physics.

Policy Review:

ABMP: The committee reviews an issue where an initial license applicant who had taken the ABMP was not approved by NYSED staff for a diagnostic medical physics license. The committee members had previously determined that this examination would be equivalent for the license requirements. Mr. Boese would like to consult with the current committee to determine if this would still be relevant today. While the members cannot make an official vote without a quorum, the consensus of those present is that this examination would be acceptable for legacy candidates seeking initial licensure in NYS. Applicants would have needed to complete both Part 1 and Part 2 of the appropriate examination sequence.

Medical Health Physics and Mammography: The committee received an inquiry from a licensed medical health physicist asking if it was in their scope of practice to test a mammography machine. This testing is typical for an individual licensed in the specialty of diagnostic radiological physics.

Dr. Hamacher expressed the opinion that it would need to be a diagnostic physicist because this is a diagnostic machine. Mammography is regulated by the Mammography Quality Standards Act (MQSA) under federal law. The qualifications of any individual testing the machine under this law would need to meet the regulatory criteria. The individual must also hold a national certification to operate the machine.

Dr. Petrone mentions that the federal requirements for a mammography physicist may technically allow some medical or health physicists to test a mammography machine under § 8707 of the education law. § 8707 allows an exemption from NYS licensure for any individual allowed to perform the functions of a medical physicist under federal law. A key distinction to note is that the law stipulates that such individuals cannot be restricted from "performing the function" of a medical physicist. There was some discussion as to whether performing the functions was the same as practicing medical physics.

The committee believes that a physicist qualifying under MQSA would make the individual qualified to evaluate mammography equipment, so there shouldn't be any safety concerns.

Medical Health Physics and periodic testing of diagnostic equipment: The committee received a separate inquiry on the appropriateness of a medical health physicist periodically testing

diagnostic equipment. The concern the committee members have is if the MH physicist is performing radiation measurements vs performing Quality Assurance (QA). It would be in the scope of practice of a MH physicist to check the safety of diagnostic equipment. However, it would not be in the MH scope of practice to check the performance of diagnostic equipment. A MH could collect data; however, a licensed diagnostic physicist would need to review the data and approve and sign off on a diagnostic report. A diagnostic physicist would need to review the image quality and utilization for diagnosis.

Body Scanners at Correctional Facilities: The committee received an inquiry if a licensed medical physicist was required to check body scanners at correctional facilities. Under the medical physics law Article 166, the scope of practice of medical physics is the "...use and application of accepted principles and protocols of physics in a clinical setting". Because a correctional facility is not a "clinical setting" this would fall outside of medical physics scope.

Dr. Hamacher expressed the opinion that exposing people to radiation through a body scanning device could be considered health physics. However, having a licensed physicist check the machine would just be considered good practice, rather than required under the law.

Dr. Petrone pointed out that Chapter 33 regulates the use of body scanners specifically in New York City. The regulation stipulates that physicists must be board certified to check body scanners. However, a medical physics license is not required under this law.

Specialty named in PC names: For medical physicists who own a professional corporation, or a professional limited liability company, the name of the specific specialty that the physicist is licensed in must be included in its entirety in the business's name. So for example, if a physicist is licensed in "Diagnostic radiologic physics", the term "Diagnostic radiologic physics" must be included in the business name.

Policy Review - Quality Control Guidance:

Nearly ten years ago, the committee members at that time created professional practice guidance on Quality Control. The current committee members are considering updating this guidance. Committee member Thomas Petrone has created a draft of revisions that seek to update names and titles which are used in the field. The concern is that the names and titles currently used in this guidance are not actually used in real life. The goal of these revisions is to eliminate as much confusion and grey area as possible. The main problem however, is that the confusing titles are written into state law and the language of the law can only be changed through the NYS legislature. The committee proposes a solution to create a footnote at the bottom of the current guidance with a key of these definitions. The goal is to translate the statute for the general public.

There was also a suggestion to rework the methodology for periodic updating the approval of persons qualified to collect QC data.

Any changes to the guidance document would need to be reviewed by NYSED counsel and would also need to be shared with the Bureau of Environmental Radiation Protection (BERP) for their input.

The committee agreed to continue this QC Guidance update process through email prior to our next in person meeting.

Presentation - Paths to the Professions:

Kelly Murphy and Stephanie Maes visit from the NYSED Professions Connections Unit to give a presentation on the Paths to the Professions website. The Professions Connections Unit serves as a liaison between NYSED and licensed professionals, working together with students, educators, and other agencies. Paths to the Professions is intended to raise awareness on the career paths within licensed professions. Medical Physics is a good example of a profession that young students may not be familiar with, but may match well with their skillset.

The "Explore Careers" page lists all the professions with links to individual pages. Each page has a general description of the profession, an informational video, salary information, job locations, interests/abilities the profession would appeal to, and professional skills needed to succeed in said profession. Each profession also has a "Print Profile" which is an informational flyer that can be displayed on a wall in a school. Each Print Profile has a QR code that leads directly to the Office of Professions website. The Unit is looking for feedback from the committee members to ensure that the information on their website is accurate. They are also looking for materials such as educational videos, or news articles that may highlight the profession.

Other Issues?:

Committee member Pat Zanzonico reports that there is an explosive growth in radiopharmaceutical therapy and dosimetry. Radiopharmaceutical therapy involves the targeted delivery of radiation to tumor cells or to the tumor microenvironment. The main question is how common will these therapies become, and what kind of professional license would be required to handle this? Currently these treatments have a "fixed" dose of radiation which does not require any dosimetry. However, this could change in the future as the approach to treatment develops. Mr. Boese proposes adding this issue to the agenda for the next meeting.

Next Meeting Date:

The next meeting is scheduled for October 8, 2026, at 2pm. This will be committee member Michael Schell's last meeting. His departure will create a vacancy for a committee member licensed in therapeutic radiological or radiation oncology physics. Committee members are encouraged to submit nominations for new members ahead of the next meeting.

Meeting Adjourned at 4:00 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Lee Fitzgerald
Education Program Assistant 2