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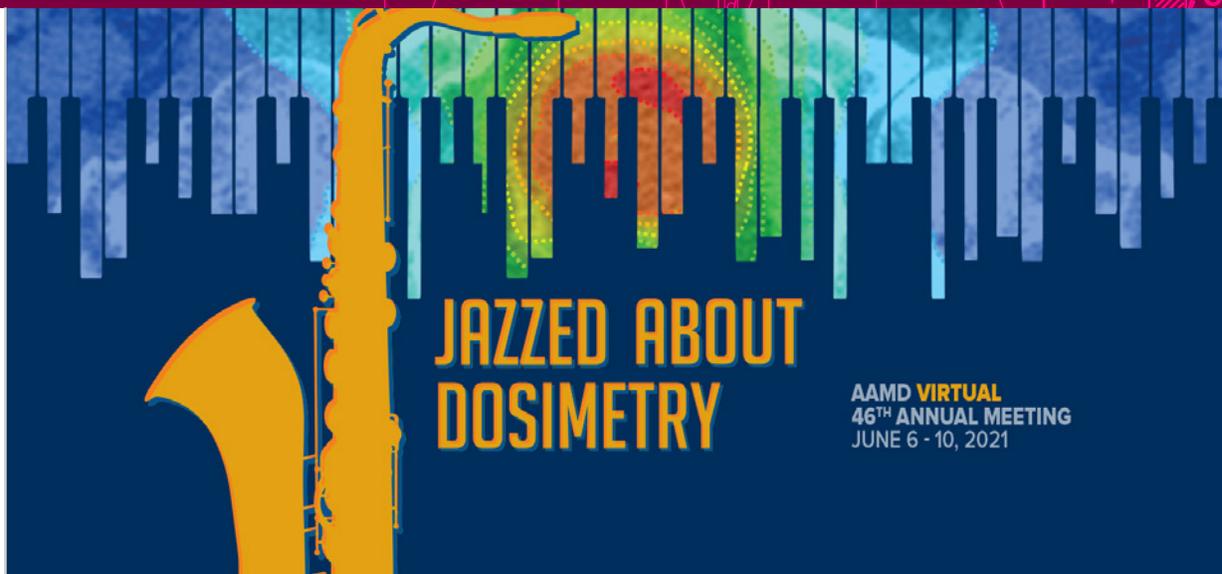
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MDCB News



We Are Jazzed About Dosimetry – A Preview of the AAMD Virtual 46th Annual Meeting

by Lee Culp, CMD, and Jeffrey Antone, CMD
2021 Annual Conference Committee Co-chairs

The Annual Conference Committee (ACC) and the AAMD Board of Directors are pleased to invite you to participate in the [AAMD Virtual 46th Annual Meeting](#), June 6 - 10, 2021. Due to the ongoing health and safety concerns for all meeting attendees, the AAMD Board of Directors recently announced that this year's meeting would be virtual. This won't impact the Annual Conference Committee's (ACC) program, however, as all attendees will surely be "Jazzed About Dosimetry" after participating in the meeting!

The field of medical dosimetry is continually evolving, and the ACC has been working diligently to produce an educational program to parallel the swift changes within the field. COVID-19 presented many challenges, and our field adapted and thrived during those times. We saw an unknown virus cripple the world, but the spirit and determination of our fellow Dosimetrists, Physicists, Therapists, and MDs never wavered. We were able to adapt, to change with the times – patients were treated, cancers were cured. The AAMD Virtual 46th Annual Meeting serves as a symbol to all of those in this field, that we are determined, and no matter what, can care for our patients – as their lives are most

important for us. Because of the advances this field has made over the past 30 years, collectively we did not skip a beat. The meeting will cover topics of such advancement and discuss how some clinics overcame the struggles during this pandemic. Here are some examples

- Our keynote will be about diversity in the field of radiation oncology.
- A MedDos Infinity Task Group panel will discuss the future of dosimetry.
- The highest attended session from 2020 returns again this year – 2021 AAMD Plan Study, which will focus on the thorax.
- The well-received, LIVE contouring sessions will return again! Make time to participate in this real-time learning activity.
- Let's talk about the importance of leadership as a Medical Dosimetrist.
- A veterinarian featured in a 2019 Super Bowl commercial will talk about the *State of the Art of Veterinary Radiotherapy*.

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Tips and tricks will be taught, safety procedures will be discussed, all of which can be implemented in attendees' clinics. The continuing education (CE) credits are not only applicable for Certified Medical Dosimetrists, but also for Radiation Therapists.

You will also have the opportunity to chat with AAMD exhibitors and sponsors, who will be showcasing new products and scheduling online demos. Visit their booths and chat live about your clinical

needs. The company representatives will be eager to talk with you about developments over the past year.

Join us in jazzing up your skills this June as we explore the progressive possibilities available to dosimetrists during this new age of radiation oncology.

President's Corner



Dear Valued Members of the AAMD,

It is very hard to sum up 2020 in just one word, but if I had to choose one I would say "challenging." As difficult as it was at times, we all faced it head on and rose to the challenge, continuing to fight the battle against cancer for our patients and their families. I understand that things are still not "normal" for everyone in their work and personal lives, but I

am cautiously optimistic 2021 will bring some sense of normalcy to our lives.

I was hoping to be able to say that we will see you in New Orleans in June, but the Board of Directors decided that it was too soon to bring everyone together in a safe environment. Instead, we will once again offer our [Annual Meeting](#) virtually. The Annual Conference Committee has planned an outstanding program that you will be able to participate in without having to travel. Be sure to check out all the Virtual Annual Meeting has to offer and mark your calendar to attend the live sessions, which will take place over the same time period as the in-person meeting was scheduled for – June 6 – 10. All sessions will also be recorded in case you miss them.

In addition to the Virtual Annual Meeting, the AAMD continues to offer education online for on-demand access. Take advantage of the credits that are included in your membership. The [CE Center](#) on the AAMD website has a wide variety of topics that will be of interest to all of you. Remember these credits are not only good for MDCB credits, but also for ARRT credits as well (two birds, one stone).

Our volunteers and AAMD staff have continued to impress me with their dedication and passion for the AAMD and the medical dosimetry profession. The pandemic did not slow them down at all, and it has been amazing to see all of the accomplishments achieved last year. We thank our volunteers and staff for their ongoing work behind the scenes to make all of our programs and resources available to our members.

The AAMD Board of Directors has been refocusing on strategic planning using the collection of data from the Salary, Workforce, Education, and Radiation Oncology Professionals surveys. We want to thank all of you who took the time to complete these surveys last summer and fall as they provided us with a lot of very valuable information that will help us to shape the future of medical dosimetry. The 2019 Salary Survey Report is posted on the [AAMD website](#), and we are hoping to share the Workforce Survey Report in April. All of the research results will be shared in a featured presentation during the Annual Meeting in June too.

While we continue to navigate uncertain times, I am focusing on positive developments and looking forward the possibilities and opportunities that lie ahead. Stay safe and healthy!

Lori Kasuske, CMD, RT(R)(T)
AAMD President

MedDos Infinity Task Group Works to Shape the Future of the Profession

By Brian Napolitano, CMD
MedDos Infinity Task Group Chair and AAMD President-Elect

The members of the MedDos Infinity Task Group have been engaged for over a year and a half in research, analysis and discussion regarding the current and future direction of the medical dosimetry profession. They are continuing to review references and evaluate data in order to produce recommendations for how this profession continues to evolve. They are particularly keying in on the findings of the 2020 Workforce Survey and other surveys that were conducted by the AAMD last year.

Task Group members are now formulating recommendations for areas of focus for the AAMD and its members that will help to advance the profession while also considering developments in the larger healthcare landscape, including the adoption of artificial



intelligence tools, the impact of COVID, supply and demand pressures on staffing, rates of cancer diagnoses and other items.

There will be a full presentation of the MedDos Infinity Task Group's findings and recommendations during the AAMD Virtual 46th Annual Meeting in June. Additionally, there will be a comprehensive presentation of all AAMD survey data during the Annual Meeting. The survey reports will be published on the AAMD website for AAMD members this spring.

The Task Group has worked extremely hard in conducting this analysis of the profession and formulating recommendations for its future. The AAMD leaders and members are grateful for their diligence and insights on this important project.

Get Ready to Vote in the 2021 AAMD Election

By Dotti Matthews, CMD
Nominations & Volunteer Committee Co-Chair

The 2021 AAMD Election starts March 25! This year the AAMD has excellent, qualified candidates on the ballot for the following open positions: President-Elect, Secretary, Region V and Region VI Representatives. We encourage all Full CMD members to vote. Please be prepared to set aside time to read each candidate's bio and position statement, which will be included in the election platform. Voting is a fun and an important way to support your colleagues in their hope to represent AAMD and better the medical dosimetry profession. Here are the candidates who will be on the electronic AAMD ballot. You can also learn more about them on the [AAMD website](#).

Board of Directors:

President-Elect:

Adam Brown, CMD, BSRT(T), is the Director of Client Services for Revenue Cycle Coding Strategies. Adam resides in Franklin, TN.

Secretary:

Catherine Gagne, MBA, CMD, is the solo Medical Dosimetrist for Alliance HealthCare Services at Anna Jaques Hospital. Catherine resides in Concord, NH.

Crystal Bull, MS, CMD, RT(R)(T), is a Senior Medical Dosimetrist at CTSI Oncology Practice Solutions, a Varian company. Crystal resides in Lake Waukomis, MO.

Region Representatives:

Region V:

Melissa Nolet, CMD, is a Medical Dosimetrist at Emory Decatur Hospital. Melissa resides in Sandy Springs, GA.

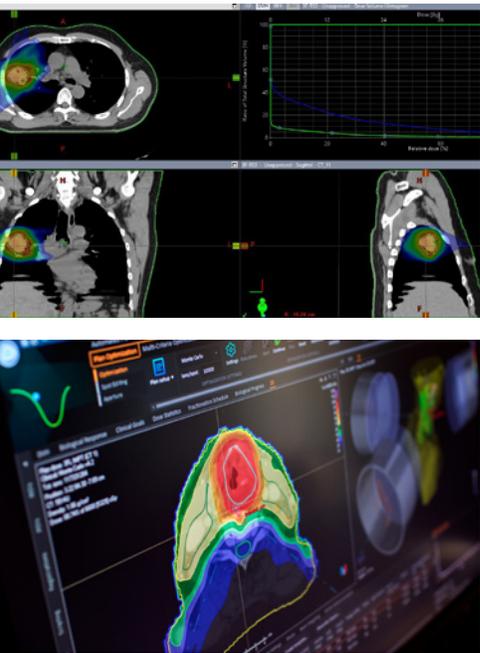
James Bell, CMD, is a Medical Dosimetrist at Emory University's Winship Cancer Institute. James resides in Decatur, GA.

Melanie Jennings, CMD, is the Manager of Radiation Oncology at AnMed Health. Melanie resides in Belton, SC.

Region VI:

Angela Kuhlke, CMD, is a Medical Dosimetrist at Ohio Medical Physics Consulting. Angela resides in Kettering, OH.

Sarah McKee, CMD, is Lead Certified Medical Dosimetrist at OHC. Sarah resides in Cincinnati, OH.



AAMD 2021 Proton Planning Symposium

By Kristi Smith, CMD
Regional Director

Join AAMD for this unique virtual event, April 9 and 23, 2021

The first-ever AAMD Proton Planning Symposium features presenters from around the world sharing their expertise on proton treatment planning. This virtual opportunity offers six CE credits (MDCB and ARRT pending approval).

The symposium format includes three live sessions on April 9 and access to three additional pre-recorded sessions. If you miss the live sessions, you can view the recordings on-demand until April 30.

Join all the presenters for a live panel discussion on April 23 when attendees will have the opportunity to ask questions and share tips and tricks! All CE Credits need to be completed by April 30.

[See the complete agenda and register today!](#)

Do You Need Additional CE Credits in 2021? Upgrade to Member Plus!

By Felita James-Christie, CMD, and Adele Philippides, CMD
Membership Committee Co-Chairs

*Are you seeking to upgrade your skills and knowledge? Would you like to prepare for a future job promotion? **The AAMD Member Plus membership option** provides the best value for earning online CE credits if your CMD cycle will be ending this year. As a Member Plus Member, you will have access to earn a total of 25 CE credits through the CE Center.*

Choose from any of these CE activities offered by the AAMD:

	Total CE Credits to Earn	Directed Journal Readings	Live Webinars	Virtual Meetings	Recorded Presentations	Annual & Regional meetings
Full CMD	12	●	●	●	●	●
Full CMD with Member Plus	25	●	●	●	●	●

A major driving force increasing the need for continuing education applies to CMDs who want to improve their skills, increase their expertise, or find other job opportunities. Continuing education activities provided by AAMD are designed to help your professional development.

As a Member Plus member, you can add value and improve your marketability in the job market.

Try Member Plus and Earn 25 Total CE Credits for Just \$75 More. Don't Delay –

[Join or Upgrade Your Membership today!](#)

What's New in Continuing Ed in 2021?

By Sandra J. John-Baptiste, CMD, and Jessica Stanulus, CMD
Continuing Education Committee Co-Chairs

AAMD Members set records in 2020! Over 7,000 people earned CE credits with sessions released in the [CE Center](#) in 2020. 2020 saw the highest number of members using the CE Center! The Continuing Education Committee (CEC) had 30 sessions available for members to earn credits! Thank you for helping us set records in 2020... Now let's beat them in 2021!

The CEC is working hard to bring fresh content to the CE Center! Already available this year is Vanessa Magliari's session, **Head and Neck Tips and Tricks: My Experience**. And Krista Kelsey, a veterinarian, is back with

Sterotactic Radiation Therapy in Veterinary Medicine. Her previous session was one of the most watched webinars during 2019 and 2020.

We are grateful for our CEC volunteers and want to thank Linnae Campbell for writing our last article for the *eMonitor*. **We are currently looking for a volunteer specifically with RT(T) credentials to help with reviewing content for ARRT credit approvals.** [Visit this webpage for more volunteer information.](#)

Upload Your Resume Anonymously: We Won't Tell A Soul!

By Cara Sullivan, CMD, and Matthew Thomas, CMD
Career Services Committee Co-Chairs

Are you seeking a new job or considering a change? Visit the [AAMD Career Center](#) and anonymously upload your resume. Why? Because we currently have over 1,100 employers who have come to our Career Center solely to hire medical dosimetrists. It's a no brainer! The Career Center is the perfect way to "get your skills out there" because it is all anonymous. Employers can only view your experience. If they are interested in discussing opportunities with you, they must first send you an electronic "Contact Request." Unlike other sites, our Career Center was designed to keep your privacy. Until you accept their request, your name and contact information are completely hidden.

Not looking for a job? Still participate in the Career Center! When you upload your resume, you will have the opportunity for a free resume review. Our Career Center has partnered with Top Resume to offer you a basic resume review. After feedback from their professionals, you can decide if you would like to purchase

other services they offer. Why not have your resume "ready to roll" and housed in a secure location? Now is the time to prepare for your next career move.

Salary Calculator: Ready to Use

The Career Services Committee is pleased to announce that the Salary Calculator tool is now updated with data collected from the recent 2019 AAMD Salary Survey. This is a quick and easy way to see how your current salary compares to others in the field. Check out the [Salary Survey Report and Salary Calculator](#) today!

The FEC Surveys Educators, Encourages Writing Competition Entries

By Lori Simmons, CMD, and Jacky Nyamwanda, CMD
Formal Education Committee Co-Chairs

The Formal Education Committee (FEC) recently distributed an Educators' Survey to the 17 programs in the United States to assess the needs and challenges faced by medical dosimetry programs. The initial results indicate that there is a lack of clinical sites for students and little institutional support for expanding existing programs or establishing new ones. The complete findings will be published on the AAMD website in the spring. Watch for an email with the highlights.

The FEC is also examining the guidelines for the Student Writing Competition and preparing to release surveys on mentorship and mentee experiences. The Student Writing Competition has received more than a dozen abstracts thus far. The winners will be announced during the [AAMD 46th Annual Meeting](#) in June. The deadline to submit an abstract for the [Student Writing Competition](#) is April 15, 2021.

Student volunteers have made a number of updates to the [AAMD Student Facebook group](#), including spotlighting students and working with instructors to post review questions.

The FEC welcomes new members. Please visit the [AAMD website](#) for more information about volunteering.

NEW BENEFIT FOR STUDENTS: Virtual Forums

By: Felita S. Christie, CMD, and Adele Philippides, CMD
Membership Committee Co-Chairs

On December 2, 2020, the Membership Committee hosted the first-ever AAMD Student Virtual Forum for student members. The idea came from a brainstorming session the committee had this past Fall. The goal is to offer online forums for students to address their specific needs as they prepare for a future career in medical dosimetry. The first forum, titled “*Studying Tips for the MDCB Exam*,” was attended by 63 students and consisted of 4 AAMD panelists who offered their advice, expertise, and encouragement. We asked Ottmar Lezama, an AAMD student member, to provide his perspective on the event:

“From a student’s point of view, I sincerely believe that the forum was a great success! The content discussed will serve as a firm foundation as I prepare to take the MDCB exam. I am very appreciative that the AAMD offered this forum. There was a very agreeable chemistry among the panelists, and I appreciated their advice on many topics. My main take-aways were the number of hours I should study, who to ask for help, and exam day logistics to consider.”

If you are preparing to take your MDCB exam, please view the recorded forum online and have a piece of paper and a pen handy. Many studying tips await you!

[View the recording on this page](#) under MDCB Exam Information.

Now get ready for the next Student Virtual Forum in April!

Tips and Tricks for Planning IMRT SIB Head & Neck Cancers

AAMD Student Virtual Forum
Tuesday, April 20, 7:00 - 8:30 PM EDT
For AAMD Student Members Only!



EVENT DETAILS: This virtual forum will provide advice from 4 panelists on how to plan SIB Head and Neck treatments on Eclipse, Monaco, Pinnacle, and RayStation treatment planning systems. Our panelists will give their personal tips and tricks on contouring, beam setup, optimization, and plan evaluations. This is an excellent opportunity to see how each TPS can be utilized for a Head and Neck plan.

Please note that the panelists will not be compensated by the treatment planning companies, and all information provided in the forum is for educational purposes only. AAMD encourages students to adhere to the policies and procedures outlined at their clinical training sites.

All AAMD Student members will receive an Outlook Meeting Invitation from Whitney O'Donnell, AAMD Member Services Manager. This event is FREE, and you will not be required to pre-register. Please **accept or decline the meeting request** so we know how many attendees to expect. If you do not receive the invitation, please email wodonnell@medicaldosimetry.org. The invitation will contain the Zoom meeting link.

In Memorium: Joyce Keil, CMD



The AAMD received notification that a long-term member, Joyce Keil, recently passed away. Her colleagues, also AAMD members, asked that we share this news as Joyce had a passion for teaching medical dosimetry. Joyce attended Gwynedd’s Mercy’s Radiation Therapy Program with a clinical assignment at Thomas Jefferson Hospital. After graduation, Joyce started her career at Cooper Medical Center. During her years at Cooper, she furthered her career by learning medical dosimetry. She became involved in Cooper’s Radiation

Therapy program affecting many students’ careers. This included writing a chapter in the Physics text by Stanton and Stinson. After 27 years at Cooper Medical Center, Joyce joined the dosimetry staff at Thomas Jefferson Hospital continuing her mentorship for another 11 years until her retirement. Joyce loved the ocean and enjoyed sailing her boat along the Jersey shore. Along with her husband, they traveled extensively throughout Europe. Joyce will be greatly missed.

Meet Journal Associate Editor Donna Powell, DHSc, MS, CMD, R.T.(T)



The *Medical Dosimetry* journal is very fortunate to have an engaged group of Associate Editors that have various backgrounds and experience. Associate Editors are responsible for assessing a manuscript's relevance and make publication recommendations based on independent reviews. I would like the AAMD membership to be introduced to each of these editors. I asked Donna Powell to provide some insights into her background and career path. – **Cory Neill, Editor-in-Chief, *Medical Dosimetry***

Donna has been working with the National Comprehensive Cancer Network (NCCN) since 2014. Her role includes facilitating interactions between external sources and the NCCN Radiation Therapy and Imaging Programs, as well as maintaining the NCCN Radiation Therapy Compendium™.

Donna has been working in the radiation oncology field for over 35 years. Throughout that time, she has worked as a radiation therapist, department manager, program director, medical dosimetrist, and senior oncology scientist in Pennsylvania and New Jersey. She began her career as a radiation therapist in 1985.

Donna recently received her Doctorate in Health Science (DHSc) degree from Nova Southeastern University in June 2020. She received her Master's degree in Radiologic and Imaging Sciences, with an education concentration in 2008. She became a Certified Medical Dosimetrist (CMD) in 2004. She obtained her Bachelor's degree in 2002, as well as earning her Associate's Degree in Applied Science-Radiation Therapy degree in 1985.

Donna has served on multiple advisory boards and has been an adjunct instructor in the field of radiation therapy. She is currently serving as an associate editor of the journal, *Medical Dosimetry*, and participates on the AAMD MedDos Infinity Task Group. In addition to the AAMD, she is an active member of the American Society of Radiologic Technologists (ASRT) and the American Society for Radiation Oncology (ASTRO).

Thank you, Donna, for your dedication to the journal and the AAMD. We appreciate your time and expertise!



Volunteer with the RAD-AID/AAMD Global Medical Dosimetry Program

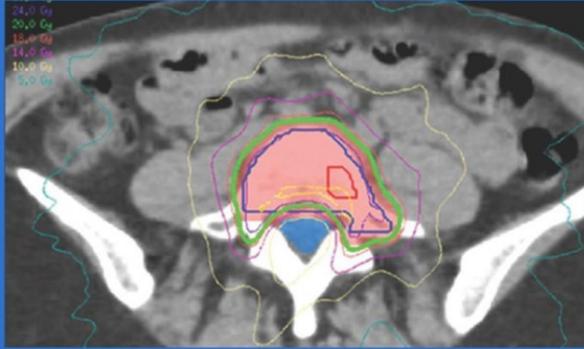
Interested in global health outreach initiatives? AAMD has partnered with RAD-AID International to give dosimetrists the opportunity to volunteer in and contribute to low-resource regions throughout the world. Put your treatment planning skills to work in areas that need them. View a [RAD-AID Information Session](#) for more information on volunteering and educational opportunities. Or visit the RAD-AID Global Medical Dosimetry Program [webpage](#).



Build Your Skills with the Proton Beam Medical Dosimetry Certificate Program

AAMD is collaborating with [Legion Healthcare Partners](#) to offer a structured education program specifically for training in proton dosimetry. The program features faculty advisors from proton centers around the world. It will cover a total of 16 didactic courses, approved for MDCB CE credits, plus access to a collaborative proton treatment planning workshop. The workshop will be held virtually in June. Get all the details on the [Proton Beam Medical Dosimetry Certificate Program webpage](#).

I'M A DOSIMETRIST
not a
MIRACLE WORKER
but I can understand why
you might be confused



AAMD Launches Instagram Account

By Kalin Shipman, CMD
Communications Committee Co-Chair



The AAMD kicked off 2021 by launching a new Instagram account: [@medicaldosimetry](https://www.instagram.com/medicaldosimetry). Our account features AAMD news highlights, professional humor, and treatment planning imagery. We will be sharing content from all over the Radiation Oncology profession and we would love for

you to be a part of it.

Start by following [@medicaldosimetry](https://www.instagram.com/medicaldosimetry). Use the [#AAMDdosimetry](https://www.instagram.com/hashtag/AAMDdosimetry) or [#medicaldosimetry](https://www.instagram.com/hashtag/medicaldosimetry) in your dosimetry-related posts and tag us so we can reshare! As conference season rolls around this summer, be sure to

watch for our Annual Meeting related hashtags. Our posts and stories will keep you updated with all the cool things our AAMD members are doing and learning.

Our Instagram account has been a work in progress for over a year, and the Communications Committee members are so excited that it has become a reality.

Special Thanks to Our 2020/2021 Sponsors

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Gold



Gold



Silver



Silver



Bronze



Bronze



Bronze



Bronze

AAMD Foundation: Look at US!

Scholarship applications opened January 15 for both CMDs and students. **The application deadline is April 15.**

- Rudi J. Bertrand Veterans Scholarship
- Gunilla Bentel Scholarship (for Certified Medical Dosimetrists)
- Sullivan Family Foundation (new this year)
 - One scholarship designated for children or spouse of first responders/active military/veterans
 - One unrestricted scholarship
- Varian Student Scholarships
- MDCB Examination Vouchers
- Treatment planning training grants (Eclipse and RayStation)

Did you know about US?

- The AAMD Foundation was organized in 2007.
- We are largely a volunteer organization.
- Every donation is important.
- We have distributed over \$350,000 in scholarships/awards.
- You can direct your donation to your favorite scholarship.
- You can donate to the Foundation with AMAZON SMILE
- Search for: American Association of Medical Dosimetrists Education And Research Foundation



Meet our AAMD Foundation
Sweepstakes Winner!!

Claire Young, CMD

Follow US!



Email US!

info@aamdfoundation.org

Support US!

Donate



Certification News

By Felicia Lembesis, CAE
Executive Director, MDCB

Learning Plan Review Schedule for 2021

To assist CMDs in maintaining their learning plans, in 2021, the MDCB will be reviewing learning plans based on the following schedule:

- Year 5 of Cycle: Continuous review for CMDs with 5-year cycle ending in 2021.
- Year 4 of Cycle: January, April, July and October for CMDs with 5-year cycle ending in 2022.
- Year 3 of Cycle: February, May, August and November for CMDs with 5-year cycle ending in 2023.
- Year 2 of Cycle: March, June, September and December for CMDs with 5-year cycle ending in 2024.
- Year 1 of Cycle: March, June, September and December for CMDs with 5-year cycle ending in 2025.

MDCB ARRT RCEEM Update

The MDCB is an ARRT recognized continuing education evaluation mechanism (RCEEM). This means that ARRT has approved the MDCB to evaluate continuing education (CE) activities. MDCB activities are authorized to award Category A designation to any CE activity that meets ARRT's requirements. Being a recognized RCEEM assists Certified Medical Dosimetrists in maintaining both their ARRT and MDCB credentials concurrently.

In accordance with ARRT CE policy requirements, on February 1, 2021 the MDCB will be rolling out several changes to MDCB Policies and Procedures to maintain ARRT RCEEM Compliance.

- MDCB will now approve presentations of 15-29 minutes. These presentations will be assigned one-quarter hour credit.
- Only names of activities will be listed in activity queues. Activity numbers will no longer be posted. All certificates, however, documenting participation will require current MDCB activity numbers.
- When submitting activities for approval, CMDs will be required to complete a short survey regarding: (1) overall session evaluation, (2) relevance of session content, (3) instructor effectiveness and (4) session duration.

September 2021 Exam Dates

Exam: September 16-18, 2021

Late Application Deadline: July 5, 2021 (U.S. Candidates Only)

Early Application Deadline: June 21, 2021

Application Opens: April 16, 2021

Exam Handbook Posted: March 26, 2021