The European Federation of Organisations for Medical Physics
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Professional Matters Committee
Dr Ad J.J. Maas, chairman
29th July 2019

EFOMP – Request for NRS approval

Dear President,

Last year EFOMP started the new procedure for NRS (National registration Scheme) approval. Nine months later, two NMO applied. These were DGMP (Germany) and NVKF/OKF (Netherlands). Both NMO were granted approval according to the eight new criteria. Other NMOs are invited to apply for approval of their NRS.

Experience with the new procedure so far revealed some issues that that require immediate attention. The main problem is language. A good MPE registration scheme is well documented and is legal proof. Problem is that this job can be best done in the prime language of the country but PMC members that have to evaluate the NRS do not have knowledge of all European languages. This makes English the preferred language for communicating the NRS. For NMOs that have English as their native language this is not a problem but most NMOs do not. It also cannot be expected for NMOs to have all their (legal proof) NRS documents translated into English. The solution proposed is to have a summarised document directly related to the eight criteria in English.

Another potential problem encountered was the five year validation period of the NRS approval Five years is a relatively short time in view of the number of NMOs (> 30) and the workload of processing an application for NRS approval. Based on these observations the EFOMP Board has adapted the NRS validation period. This period is now extended to 10 years for a full evaluation, and a provisional evaluation is done 5 years after the official approval is granted.

A request for approval according to the new rules starts by filling in the request for approval form (RfA form) which can be found on the EFOMP website. Answers ticked in the evaluation form may need further explanation by additional documents in English. The request for approval form and other relevant documents must be sent to the Professional Matters Committee (professionalmatterscommittee@efomp.org) which will confirm receipt of the documents. The next step is that the PMC members will examine the request for approval. At this time, they may ask for more documents. The PMC will advise the EFOMP Board to accept or reject approval in their final decision. This procedure is expected to take 3 months after the official request for approval by the NMO.

Evaluation of the request for approval is done using the eight criteria as described in EFOMP Policy Statement 6.1 which is published in the European Journal of Medical Physics (EJMP 32 (2016) 1-6; https://www.efomp.org/uploads/policy_statement_nr_6.pdf). A further explanation of the present approval process may be found on the EFOMP website.

Finally, approval will be confirmed by sending you a formal document signed by the EFOMP president and the chair of the PMC. The validity period of approval is taken to be 10 years after which re-approval should be sought.

This process of NRS approval is a step towards full recognition of the Medical Physics profession in Europe and confirms that quality of the education and training scheme of

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medical physics experts conforms to EFOMP's standards. The next step to take is to focus on training contents. This should lead to a mutual acknowledgement of MPEs across the borders of European countries.

In case you have any enquiries regarding the above, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,

Ad Maas
Chair EFOMP Professional Matters Committee

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