MEFOMP
Middle East Federation of Organizations of Medical Physics

Newsletter

"The Voice of Middle East Medical Physics"

Volume 1, Issue 10
31 AUG 2021

Medical Physics huge contribution lead to one of the largest issues of MPI Journal

A new issue of the Medical Physics International Journal is now published at: http://mpijournal.org/MPI-v09i01.aspx

This was one of our largest issues. This special MPI June issue is focused on the MEFOMP work. It contains extensive papers about the professional development in the various MEFOMP countries. The following 12 articles from MEFOMP countries were published in this issue:

1. Medical Physics In The Mefomp Region: Current Status 2021, *Mohammad Hassan Kharita and Huda Al Naemi*

2. Medical Physics Education, Training And Professional Recognition In Iraq, *Nabaa Naji*

3. Medical Physics Education, Training And Regulation In Jordan, *A.M. Ababneh, A.M. Alyassin, H. Kanan*

4. Medical Physics In Kuwait, *M. Alnaaimi, M. Alduaij and M. Omer*

5. Medical Physics Status And Challenges In Lebanon. *Z. Al Kattar, H. El Balaa, I. Duhaini, B. Chahine, W. Jalbout, M. Moussallem, H. Rima, D. Saadeddine*

6. Medical Physics Status In Sultanate Of Oman, *Zakiya Salem Al Rahbi and Ibtesam Nasser Al Maskari*

7. Status Of Medical Physics In Palestine, *I. Abuawwad and S. Ghithan*

8. The Evolution Of Quality Control Services For Radiology Equipment Of Hamad Medical Corporation In Qatar From 2005 To 2021, *Huda Al Naemi, Ioannis A. Tsalafoutas, Osman Taha, Shady AlKhazzam, Mohammed Hassan Kharita*

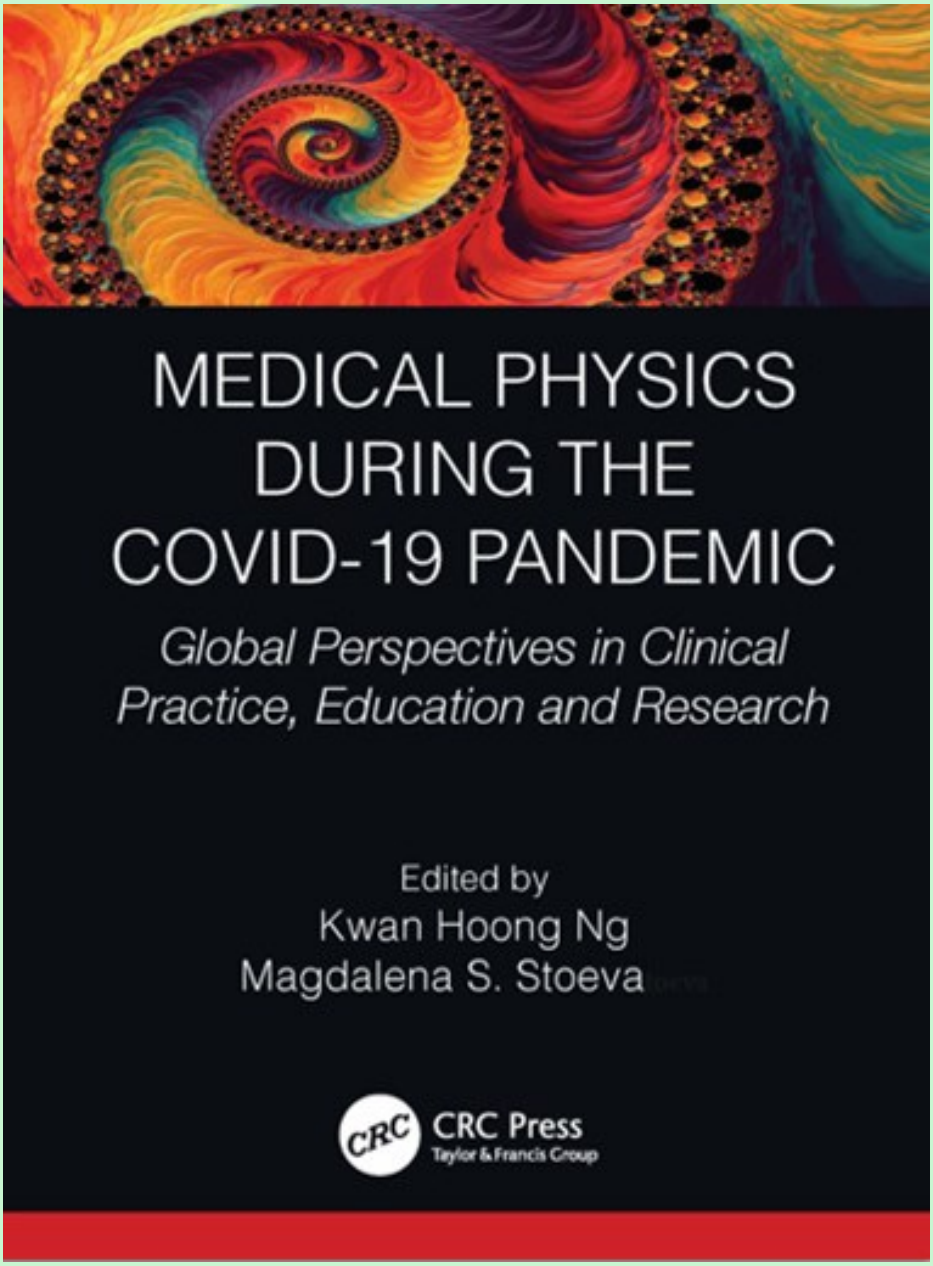
9. Impact Of Covid-19 On Medical Physics In Qatar, *Mohammad Hassan Kharita, Rabih Hammoud and Huda Al Naemi*

10. Medical Physics Profession In The Kingdom Of Saudi Arabia, *Refaat AlMazrou, Omar Noor, Shadei Alanazi and Belal Moftah*

11. MEDICAL PHYSICS DEVELOPMENT IN SYRIA, *Ibrahim Othman, Abdulkader Sadiyyah, Raid Shweikani, Anas Ismail, Yehia Lahfi, Ousamah Anjak*

12. Medical Physics Status In Yemen, *Abdo Al-Qubati*

Contribution of Medical Physicists During COVID-19 in the Middle East



A new scientific book with title of "medical physics during the COVID-19 pandemic" published by CRC press on 18 March 2021 , the book is a response which explores: How the COVID-19 pandemic has affected clinical practice, education, and research in medical physics, and How colleagues on the frontline dealt with this unpredictable and unprecedented pandemic.

The book edited by Kwan Hoong Ng and Magdalena S. Stoeva , and it focuses on the different experiences of medical physicists in different regions: Asia-Pacific, the Middle East, Europe, Africa and North and Latin America with over 91 contributors from 39 countries and it also tackles key questions such as:
How did medical physicists first respond to the situation?
What innovative strategies were taken and how effective were they?
How are medical physicists preparing for the future?

This is the first book to cover the impact of COVID-19 on the field of medical physics with broad, global coverage, ranging from the impact on teaching, research, and publishing, with unique perspectives from journal editors, students, and trainees. It is edited by two experts in the field, with chapter contributions from subject area specialists around the world.

Chapter 9 of this book speaks about the middle east region. The contributors to this piece of work are: Huda Al Naemi - Qatar, Mohammed Hassan Kharita - Syria, Meshari Al Nuaimi - Kuwait, Refat Al Mazrou - KSA, Rabih Hammoud - Lebanon, Zeina Elbalaa - Lebanon, Zakia Al Rahbi - Oman, Hanan Al Dosary - Kuwait, Ismail A. Abuawwad - Palestine and Ibtesam Nasser AL-Maskari - Oman.

The chapter from middle east summarizes the contribution from the national societies with emphasis on the importance of protection of staff and patients in addition to the cooperation with physicians for better diagnosis and treatment for the COVID-19 patients. Furthermore, it addresses the activities related to all aspects of medical physics, health physics and radiation safety in radiology, radiotherapy, and nuclear medicine during the COVID-19 pandemic, with some examples from the different MEFOMP member countries.

MEFOMP Accreditation Program

The Middle East Federation of Medical Physics (MEFOMP) has recently established a new accreditation program for healthcare organizations, which is similar with, i.e., American College of Radiology (ACR) and College of American Pathologists (CAP).

The core purpose of the program is to continuously improve delivery of safe and high-quality radiologic care in the middle east region based on MEFOMP-established standard criteria.

The accreditation shall attest that the facility is in compliance with MEFOMP accreditation standard with its overall operation based on the established elements of performance; thus, assures patients, referring physicians and other relevant healthcare professionals on the quality of performance and output of the accredited facility. Furthermore, all MEFOMP-accredited organizations shall commit to maintain and continuously review their imaging equipment quality control program.

MEFOMP Accreditation Board

MEFOMP
MIDDLE EAST FEDERATION OF ORGANIZATIONS OF MEDICAL PHYSICS

CERTIFICATE OF ACCREDITATION

This is to certify that

Radiation Safety Section
Occupational Health and Safety
Hamad Medical Corporation
P.O. Box 3050
Doha-Qatar

has implemented and maintained the **Quality Control Service Provider (QCSP)** requirements according to:

MEFOMP - Accreditation Program for Quality Control Service Providers of X-ray medical equipment - General Requirements and Guidance

Scope includes the following medical x-ray units:

- Computed Tomography and Portable CT
- Fluoroscopy units (under and over couch, Biplane C-arm, Multi-purpose C-arm, mobile C-arm, mini mobile C-arm and mobile O-arm)
- General Radiography and mobile X-Ray
- Mammography (2D and DBT)
- Dental units (Intra Oral, Panoramic/Cephalometric and CBCT)
- Bone Densitometer (DEXA or DXA)
- EOS-biplanar Bone Scan

Accreditation was granted after comprehensive audit of the QCSP procedures, which verified compliance with the MEFOMP requirements.

Certificate registration no.: COAQC-20200126-001
Date of certification: 26-01-2020
Valid until: 26-01-2023

Dr. Meshari M. Nuami
Chairman, MEFOMP Accreditation Board

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In line with this, MEFOMP has established an accreditation manual containing guidance on audit criteria, parameters, and measurable elements which is mainly designed to assist organizations in the establishment of their facilities for the accreditation.

Hamad Medical Corporation (HMC) which is the biggest medical organization in Doha-Qatar is the first organization in the Middle East to obtain the accreditation from MEFOMP. The accreditation has been granted after a comprehensive audit, which confirmed compliance with the MEFOMP accreditation standards.

MEFOMP leadership urges its member countries to promote this valuable accreditation in their local healthcare organizations, to ensure radiologic services in the region provides high quality care to its patients, which is in line with MEFOMP aim for a sustained pursuit of excellence and advancement of medical physics practice in the Middle East.

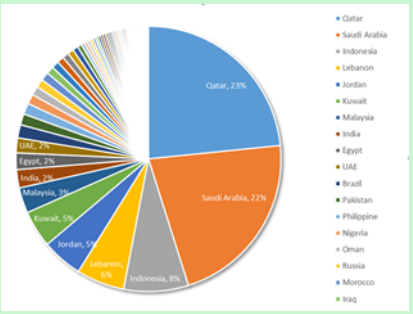
MEFOMP Virtual Conference Final Report

The 2021 MEFOMP virtual conference which was held from 5 to 7 April 2021 was a collaborative event between IAEA and MEFOMP organized under the title "2021 Virtual Medical Physics Conference". The conference had successfully shared a platform on which state-of-the-art and up-to-date developments in the Medical Physics profession were discussed. The event attracted more than 3000 registrations from 80 different countries and attended by 1950 health professionals from around the world.

The conference targeted medical health professionals such as medical physicists, radiologists, oncologists, clinical scientists, radiological technologists, nurses, radiochemists, radiation therapists, biomedical engineers etc. and it was accredited by International Organization of Medical physics (IOMP) with 15 IOMP CPD points and 16 CME points from The Board of the Commission on Accreditation of Medical Physics Education Programs CAMPEP as well. It created a great opportunity for participants to discuss and collaborate with scientists from different parts of the world working in the Medical Physics field. The topics discussed were interactive and kept the participants busy with questions and answers.

Kuwait Foundation for the Advancement of Sciences (KFAS) and Hamad Medical Corporation (HMC) were the proud sponsors of the conference which was also endorsed by several leading regional and international organizations such as the EFOMP, AFOMP, FAMPO, and IOMP.

With free registration for all countries, the conference had an outstanding registration record with more than 2900 registrants that rival the big and established international meetings. The number of participants attended the conference were over 1900 from 81 countries mainly from the Middle East region.

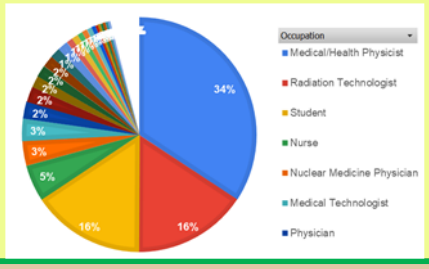


Analysis of the survey results

A survey was sent to the participants of the conference and below are the analysis of the results of the feedback from around 600 participants who answered the survey questions:

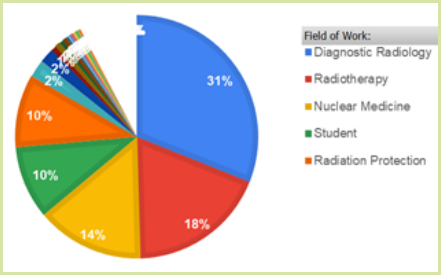
1. What is your occupation?

The largest five groups of participants were medical/ health physicists, radiation technologists, students, nurses, Nuclear Medicine physicians, medical technologists and physicians with 34%, 16%, 16%, 5%, 3%, 3% and 2%, respectively.



2. What is your field of work?

The largest five groups of participants were working in diagnostic radiology, Radiotherapy, Nuclear Medicine, Students and Radiation Protection with 31%, 18%, 14%, 10% and 10%, respectively.



3. How was your total experience with 2021 MEFOMP Conference?

55% of participants responded to the survey answered "Excellent" and 41% answered "Very Good".