

Winter 2025 Newsletter

2024-2025 Directors

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President's Message



KARISA GLOWINSKI,

I want to welcome everyone to the Winter 2025 newsletter! As President, I am excited to share some of the latest developments and highlights from the MDCB. First, I want to acknowledge all the successful candidates on the most recent September examination. On this latest administration we saw an 88% pass rate, with 127 individuals obtaining their CMD! Congratulations, as this is a testament to years of hard work, commitment, and sacrifice each of you endured to achieve this milestone. As you progress as CMDs, I am eager to see the positive impact you have on the field of medical dosimetry and the patients we serve. I wish you all continued success in your careers!

I want to highlight two significant changes during the latest test administration. First, over the last year, the board has worked tirelessly

to transition to a new testing vendor, Meazure Learning. Meazure successfully administered the September exam to all candidates and will be the platform for each administration moving forward. The change to this new testing vendor will enhance the MDCB's mission to deliver a psychometrically sound and legally defensible exam for all potential CMDs. I want to thank all applicants and the CMD community for their patience during this transition. The second change over this last administration was the expansion of performance-based testing methods and the introduction of OAR contouring. As technology advances in the field, such as AI and the use of autosegmentation, it is imperative to ensure newer cohorts of students meet the minimally competent standards of a practicing CMD. This performance-based feature will enhance candidates' clinical proficiency in a task that is performed daily by CMDs. I hope the community is as excited as we are about this milestone in the exam structure!

Additionally, the upcoming administration, in January 2025, will utilize the new Test Specification Matrix. This matrix was established based on a "Job Task Analysis also known as a Role Delineation Study is designed to meet stringent certification industry standards and recognized best practice guidelines. An electronic survey examines more than 150 work-related task and knowledge statements and is distributed to all MDCB certificants and AAMD members totaling approximately 5,000 professionals in the field of Medical Dosimetry. "Volunteer content experts use this data to identify areas of knowledge for testing from the content domains identified and exam questions are written to target those areas" (MDCB, 2024). Following a Job Task Analysis, a Standard Setting Study determines the passing score, identifying what knowledge a minimally qualified candidate will know. The 2023 Test Specification Matrix can be found here: https:// mdcb.org/sites/mdcb/files/images/MDCB%20CMD%20Test%20Specifications%20Matrix JTA%202023.pdf

Finally, I would like to acknowledge the hard work and dedication undertaken by the board of directors this past year. The transition to Meazure Learning and the addition of contouring both underwent extensive QA and testing procedures to ensure that a valid and reliable exam could be administered. As volunteers fill each board position, I would like to thank each member for their continued dedication and hard work to the medical dosimetry community. Furthermore, I encourage other community members to apply for a position on the MDCB Board. Through community engagement, we can ensure all populations of the medical dosimetry profession are represented. Lastly, if you have any questions or feedback, please get in touch with us at info@mdcb.org. Thank you for your time and support. I hope you enjoy the latest edition of the newsletter.

Regards,

Karisa Glowinski, CMD

MDCB President •

In This Issue:

Page 1 President's Message & Photo

Page 2 Congratulations to New CMDs

Page 3 September 2025 Dates

Page 4 Welcome New Board

Members Thank you to Page 4

Departing Board Members

Page 4 **AAMD** Foundation Scholarships

Page 5 AAMD Contribution

MOC Updates Page 5

Page 5 Professional Responsibility Statement

CONGRATULATIONS

to the September 2024 exam candidates who successfully challenged the exam!

Hana Abdo Jacob Adams Kanza Ahsan Chelsea Asencio Lindsey Askew **Dorothy Avalos** Muath Ayyad Billie Baker Kearla Bentz Kaylen Biltoft Donna Branche Breanna Brown Perla Brown Joseph Bryant Shealynn Burgess Alan Buzzell Yanara Chavarri-Ulloa Lorna Chen Whitney Coke Bryn Dahms **Emily Daum** Luis Davila David Delaney Jennifer DeWeese **David Domino**

Phylicia Driscoll

Joshua Dutton Kristen Eberhard Ryann Edwards Katelyn Evers Lindsey Falkner Katelyn Flanigan Tiffany Foster Jennifer Fuller Christian Gallegos Kendall Gantous Valerie Gonzalez Amanda Gray Matthew Green Ayrian Grundstrom Erica Gunzelman Paola Hack Molly Hado Randi Hagan Samuel Hammel Martina Hanna Sved Aun Hasan Breanna Huang Heather Huffman Tyler Hwang Milica Ilic Shannon Ingram

Emilee Jackson Erika Jang Ting Jiang Amanda Johnson Chesicka Johnson Kelly Keene Katelyn Knoepke Margaret Koehn Alyssa Kuster George Labissoniere Dennis Lambeth Julia Lebaron Monica Leyva-Rayos Andrew Lin **Brittany Lovern** Hai Xin Lu Margaret Lucas Justin Macal Ashley Mason Zachary McAllister Nicole McDonald Jillian McFarland Erin McKenna Alex McKennell Kala McKov Marah McLaurin

Blanca Mendoza Claire Miller Jessalyn Mitchem Baila Moller Ryan Monago Kaihan Moore Phat Nguyen Adam Nowack Sunwoo Park Nicole Peckham Jamie Perry Melissa Piercey Michaela Pope Niloufar Pourkabirian Hartley Press Courtney Ramsey Derek Ratkewicz Sydney Raver Marla Rice Luis Rodas-Juarez Christina Santana **David Saunders** Sydney Seekins Suzanne Seidel Kerry Shroyer Samoura Slim

Conner Snow Stacey Song Haley Spencer Joseph Spencer Jason Stanford Martina Stewart Megan Stewart Kiruthiga Sundaravel Taryn Sutton **Ervey Tabares** Hayley Tocchio Hieu Tran Brandee Treadwell Muhammad Umer Blair Vencil David Walker Jaclyn Wanie Kathryn Williams Kent Woodard Jacob Wudtke Zhaohui Xie Regina Yu Gabriella Zullo



September 2024 Exam Statistics

- 150 applications were approved for the September 2024 exam, 148 US candidates and 2 international candidates.
- The pass rate was 88%.
- The scaled raw cut score for passing is 600 out of a total possible of 800.

Next 2025 Exam

- The September 2025 exam will be administered September **18th 20th**
 - Exam Handbook Posted: March 21st
 - Application Opens: April 11th
 - Early Application Deadline: June 20th
 - Late Application Deadline: July 1st (U.S. Candidates Only)

Exam Applicants

Applicants are reminded before starting the application, they are required to read the <u>Applicant Handbook</u> and familiarize themselves with:

- All requirements and procedures related to the exam application
- All dates related to the application and exam
- Fee policies
- Ethical standards
- Exam content domains
- Exam references

Candidates are reminded when preparing for the MDCB CMD exam to review the test matrix. The test is developed in accordance with the test categories and sub-categories detailed on the matrix. Candidates should also be familiar with recommended reference materials: popular textbooks covering subjects in radiobiology, physics, dosimetry, cross-sectional anatomy, and principles of radiation oncology practice. Other relevant resources are reports published by the AAPM, ABS, ASTRO, ICRU, ICRP, and NCRP as well as published RTOG clinical trials and NCCN quidelines.

2023 Exam Matrix

The test matrix also known as a test blueprint, derived from the 2023 Job Task Analysis, includes:

- Radiation Physics 14%
- Localization 8%
- Treatment Planning 42%
- Dose Calculation Methods 13%
- Brachytherapy 5%
- Radiation Protection 9%
- Quality Assurance and Standard of Care 9%

The test blueprint was derived from a Job Task Analysis. A report on the 2023 Job Task Analysis can be reviewed at https://mdcb.org/certification-exam-information/exam-development.

This new test blueprint will be employed for the first time on the January 2025 exam. In conjunction with the new test blueprint, a Standard Setting Study will be completed. The Standard Setting Study is performed to determine a passing score. The passing score identifies what the minimally qualified candidate will know. Each candidate's ability is measured against the determined cut score.

When conducting the Standard Setting, volunteer Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) are required to read and answer each item in the test and predict the proportion of minimally competent candidates who would answer each item correctly. Resulting ratings are analyzed and discussed with the participating SMEs. The SMEs are given an opportunity to affirm or revise their original ratings. Calculating the ratings across items and across SMEs results in a recommended cut score.

Three-Attempt Rule

The MDCB Board recently voted to revise the three-attempt rule. Beginning with the January 2026 exam, a candidate who has initially failed the exam will have a five-year period to complete up to two additional attempts. As per previous requirements, candidates who are unsuccessful are able to reapply after a two-year waiting period as a new candidate and must meet prevailing eligibility requirements. Candidates

applying after a third attempt will be required to submit eight (8) MDCB-approved continuing education credits with their applications.

All candidates whose first attempt preceded the January 2026 exam will not be subject to the five-year restriction but must have documented previous attempts to reapply for the exam. A "no show" or withdrawal for any exam administration will not be counted as an attempt.

International Candidacy

As announced in August of 2024, The MDCB will suspend the international eligibility route following the administration of the September 2025 exam. During the period of suspension, the MDCB will investigate and determine how to ensure we are meeting our mandate to provide procedural fairness and be assured that no candidate is advantaged or disadvantaged in the application approval process.

MDCB Thanks Outgoing Board Members

The MDCB extends its sincere thanks to outgoing board of director members, Chris Amaloo, BSEE, CMD, Akhil Tiwari, CMD, and Blair Murphy, MD. Chris, Akhil and Blair concluded their terms on August 31, 2024. While on the board, Chris served in various roles on the MDCB Executive Committee including President. Akhil also served on the Executive Committee as Secretary. Blair is a radiation oncologist and served as the ACR Liaison.

Christie Binder, MD, PhD

ACR LIAISON



Christie is a Radiation Oncologist at Durango Cancer Center, Durango, CO. She completed her residency at Oregon Health and Sciences University. She graduated from Tufts University with a Doctorate of Medicine and a Doctorate of Philosophy in Genetics.

Welcome New Board Members

Jessica Fountain, MS, CMD, RT(T)

INCOMING AAMD LIAISON



Jessica earned her BS in Radiation Therapy and her MS in Medical Dosimetry at Grand Valley State University. She is a Dosimetry Manager at CTSI Oncology Solutions, a Varian company. She also serves as a Graduate Research Project Advisor for the Grand Valley State University's Master of Science Medical Dosimetry Program.

MDCB Scholarship

The MDCB is a proud supporter of the AAMD Foundation Scholarships. In 2024, five exam registration vouchers were presented to students of JRCERT-accredited programs. The recipients of the award are:

- Joseph Pape, Grand Valley State University
- Luis Rodas-Juarez, University of North Carolina Hospitals
- Julia Seng, Southern Illinois University
- Haley Spencer, Grand Valley State University
- Dien Tran, Grand Valley State University

Updates and Reminders from AAMD

AAMD 50th Annual Meeting – High Stakes, Higher Standards: 50 Years of Medical Dosimetry Excellence
Make plans now to join your medical dosimetry colleagues at the AAMD 50th Annual Meeting, June 15 - 18, 2025 in Las Vegas. The program will celebrate 50 years of AAMD while also highlighting the future of the profession. Learn about the latest developments in medical dosimetry, network with dosimetrists and exhibitors and enjoy all that Las Vegas has to offer! Registration will open in January.

Renew Your AAMD Membership for 2025 – Stay Connected to Your Profession Visit the AAMD website to log in and renew your AAMD membership to maintain access to continuing education to fulfill CMD CE requirements, Medical Dosimetry journal, Salary Survey, job listings, meeting discounts and more!

Need CE Credits in 2025? Visit the AAMD CE Center!

AAMD members are reminded to log into the AAMD CE

Center to utilize the annual allowance of 12 CE Credits that are included in your Full CMD Membership (or 25 CE Credits for Member Plus). These credits will expire on December 31, 2025. Check out the Course Catalog for recorded presentations, directed journal readings and more.

MAINTENANCE OF CERTIFICATION UPDATES

Learning Plan Review Schedule for 2025

To assist CMDs in maintaining their learning plans, the MDCB will be reviewing learning plans based on the following schedule in 2025:

- Year 5 of Cycle: Continuous review for CMDs with a 5-year cycle ending in 2025.
- Year 4 of Cycle: January, April, July, and October for CMDs with a 5-year cycle ending in 2026.
- Year 3 of Cycle: February, May, August, and November for CMDs with a 5-year cycle ending in 2027.
- Year 2 of Cycle: March, June, September, and December for CMDs with a 5-year cycle ending in 2028.
- Year 1 of Cycle: March, June, September, and December for CMDs with a 5-year cycle ending in 2029.

PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY STATEMENT

As a recognized member of the health-care field providing critical care to individuals facing life-threatening illnesses, it is the sole responsibility of each Certified Medical Dosimetrist to adhere to the MDCB Ethical Standards, renew their credential annually by December 31 of each calendar year, earn and document 50 continuing education credits in each five-year cycle, and make necessary updates to personal contact information in the CE Center. Renewal fees submitted after December 31 will be subject to a late fee. Failure to submit the renewal fees for any calendar year may result in the loss of the CMD credential.