NCC AAPM Membership Poll Results

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Background

• Tasked at Spring 2018 to determine importance of medical physics continuing education credit (MPCEC) hours and/or self-assessment module (SAM) hours for chapter meetings
  – Pros: more credits for membership
  – Cons: greater overhead for organizers and speakers, compressed timeframe for meeting

• Produced Google form poll on August 7 and distributed to membership
  – Broad demographics
  – Credits questions
  – Meeting preference questions

• Compiled October 3, 2018
Results: Demographics (n=74)

1. Practicing physicist, primarily therapeutic (62%)
2. Practicing physicist, primarily diagnostic (15%)
3. Resident, fellow, trainee, or student (12%)
4. Others – Emeritus, industry, corporate sponsor, etc. (11%)
Results: Reasons for meeting attendance (n=75)

1. Location of meeting (87%)
2. Content and presentations (83%)
3. Interactions with colleagues (67%)
4. Continuing education credits (63%)
Results: **Primary** reason for attendance (n=75)

1. Location of meeting (36%)
2. Content and presentations (27%)
3. Interactions with colleagues (17%)
4. Continuing education credits (15%)

Of these same options, which is the primary factor in your decision?

75 responses

- Business meeting: 36%
- Content and presentations: 22.7%
- Continuing education credits: 17.3%
- Location of meeting: 14.7%
- Interactions with colleagues: 17.3%
- Interactions with corporate sponsors and vendors: 14.7%
Results: CE credit preferences (n=75)

Which of the following best describes your feelings toward attending a chapter meeting with regard to continuing education credits?

- 42.7%: I do not attend meetings based on credits offered.
- 33.3%: SAM credits are helpful, but not a requirement for me to attend a meeting.
- 13.3%: SAM credits do not matter to me, but MPCEC credits are a requirement for me to attend a meeting.
- 33.3%: I will only attend a meeting if both MPCEC and SAM credits are offered.
Results: Meeting day availability (n=74)

Results: Meeting day preference (n=75)
Results: Night out availability (n=75)

Which of the following best describes your feelings about a casual night out with members and corporate sponsors on the evening prior to the meeting?

- 37.3%: I am unable or unlikely to attend a night out.
- 40%: I would attend a night out only if it is convenient.
- 16%: I would try to arrange my schedule in order to attend a night out.
- 0%: I would definitely attend a night out.
Results: Meeting duration (n=74)

Results: Two-day meeting preference (n=75)
Impressions

- Membership responding was:
  - Largely practicing therapeutic physicists
  - Smaller but present proportions of diagnostic physicists and junior members
- Both overall factors and primary factor for meeting attendance follow same trend:
  - Location > Content > Interactions with colleagues > CE > others
- With respect to SAMs:
  - A large portion (87%) are willing to attend a meeting without SAMs
  - About half (44%) are indifferent to SAMs
- Friday is a good day for a one-day meeting
- Relatively large (but conditional) interest in a two-day meeting, as well as some interest in a night out
  - But also some stated indifference