



RAMPS
Radiological and Medical Physics Society of New York, Inc.
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Dear RAMPS members:

The Therapy Part of the legendary RAPHEX exam is in serious trouble and needs your help urgently!

Each February, the RAPHEX committees submit ~130 therapy and ~130 diagnostic radiology questions to the publisher for the publication of RAPHEX in June. Although the Diagnostic RAPHEX is doing well, the Therapy part however is facing difficulties. The fact that not enough people contribute RAPHEX therapy questions is a problem that has been getting worse every year. As of today, we have collected less than 10 questions for the RAPHEX therapy exam 2011. Without enough questions, we will be forced to suspend the publication of RAPHEX therapy section this year. The consequences can be very serious. In addition to an immediate loss of a significant portion of our annual operation budget, RAMPS is losing credibility in providing this critical and reliable service to the medical physics and radiation oncology communities that has been continued for 42 years.

However, we still have a chance to save the RAPHEX. If the RAMPS members can contribute 100 good therapy questions within the next 2 weeks, the RAPHEX therapy committee will manage to review, edit and submit these questions by the end of February. Please note that we need more modern therapy questions (IMRT, IGRT, SRS, SBRT, MRI, PET), rather than basic dosimetry questions. There are more than 300 self-identified RAMPS members in AAPM database. About 2/3 of the members are therapy physicists. If everyone spends 15 minutes in the next two weeks making one or two question, we can have more than 300 questions. Assuming one third of these questions are good exam questions, collecting one hundred RAPHEX therapy questions is not impossible.

We believe most of us want the RAPHEX to continue and we have two weeks to save it not only for this year but also for many years to come. We urge everyone to act immediately to help the RAPHEX continue. Any help from any member will be appreciated at this critical moment. One question is not too few and ten questions are not too many.

Please email your RAPHEX therapy questions to Dr. Cheng-Shie Wu at csw6@columbia.edu.

Best,

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President of RAMPS

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