



The European Federation of Organisations for Medical Physics
 Domus Medica, Mercatorlaan 1200, Utrecht, NL
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PROPOSAL FOR A NEW WORKING GROUP (WG)

Name of WG¹:	EFOMP Policy Statement 21 “The role of the Medical Physicist in the management of medical laser sources”
Parent Committee(s)²:	Professional Matters Committee (primary) Education & Training Scientific Committee
Keywords³:	Medical physics, Laser medical applications, safety, non-ionising radiation
Chair(s)⁴:	Dr. A (Mani) Manivannan, PhD. Head of Medical Physics, NHS Ayrshire & Arran RPA 2000 accredited Laser Protection Adviser Crosshouse Hospital, KA2 0BE
Expected outcome⁵:	The purpose of these guidelines is to define the role of the Medical Physicists regarding the safe, effective, and optimized use of laser-based medical devices
Target audience⁶:	Medical Physics Experts, Medical Physics Academics and Clinical Medical Physicists, Service Engineers, Charge Nurses involved in laser medical practices
Rationale⁷:	<p>Medical Physicists working within the hospitals are often appointed as Laser Safety Experts for the lasers used in medical applications. Their role is to contribute in maintaining a safe, effective and optimized use of laser-based devices for patients, staff and visitors. In particular, it comprises quality controls, risk management (designation of laser-controlled areas, definition of protection provisions, including protective equipment, signs, etc.), staff and user training, optimisation and safety of the practices.</p> <p>The necessity of producing these guidelines was identified in the ‘EFOMP Malaga Declaration 2023: An updated vision on Medical Physics in Europe’ where it is stated that an ‘A MPE has the core knowledge, skills and competences commensurate with that of the Magnetic Resonance Safety Expert, Laser Safety Expert and MR Scientist and is required to deal with the risk assessments described in EU Directive 2013/35 [12,13,14]. MPEs in most European countries are already in charge of these positions’</p> <p>References: https://www.efomp.org/uploads/38a8db0c-c5cf-48ad-b3c9-7ec7e2eeb015/EFOMP%20malaga%20declaration%202023.pdf</p>
Coordination⁸:	There will be a collaboration with EFOMP Professional Matters Committee, Education & Training Committee and Science Committee.

This proposal form must be filled by the EFOMP parent committee chair.



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Category:	WGs are classified into the following categories depending on their topic and purpose. Please choose the most appropriate.
	New Horizons. The topic involves new scientific developments, methods, technology or clinical applications that have not yet emerged into clinical practice.
	State of Art. The topic involves codes of practice, protocols, recommendations or guidelines for activity which are expected to become enduring practice.
	Focus Area. The topic involves certain specific area of clinical interest, modality or method which may include a technical or methodological challenge to be solved.
	Educational or Informational. The topic involves education or informing the members in a relevant area of clinical practise, technology, methods, research or training.
	Consensus Document. The topic involves a consensus of the medical physics community on a certain area of interest that the EFOMP will endorse. This category may include e.g. safety issues or professional issues.
Members⁹:	A call for nominations will be set out in February 2024. The group of members will not be larger than 10 persons (including the chair).
Consultants/Observers¹⁰:	The call for WG members may also include consultants and observers (could include laser protection supervisors -LPS).
Funding¹¹:	Communication between WG members will be restricted to email and video conferencing. The WG can use the teleconferencing facility of EFOMP for online meetings. A face-to-face meeting will be planned during a future ECMP (eg ECMP2024). Estimated cost 10000 euros as per WG funding (5000 euros / year).
Timeline¹²:	WG duration is assumed to be two years as work is in a preliminary stage. This is likely to be Winter 2024 - Winter 2026. The draft policy statement will be submitted to the Council most probably before the meeting in 2026.



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Proposed outline of the final report¹³:	Laser classification, health effects of laser use , hazards and risks, risk Management, personal protective equipment, laser safety training, laser facilities, short historical overview, current status, MP role definition, protocol development, core curriculum development, future directions, recommendations.
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Legend

- 1) **Name of WG** - Including an indication of the WG type - i.e. if the WG will be a Joint WG.
- 2) **Parent Committee(s)** - Relevant EFOMP Committee.
- 3) **Keywords** - include at least 3 keywords.
- 4) **Chair(s)** - The chair of the parent committee will propose the chair of the WG.
- 5) **Expected outcome** - Description of the relevant results expected from the WG.
- 6) **Target audience** - e.g. Medical Physicists, Vendors.
- 7) **Rationale** - What is the justification and need for the proposed WG.
- 8) **Coordination** - The parent committee chair has to specify if there is a coordination or collaboration with other EFOMP Committees, WGs and/or scientific organisations.
- 9) **Members** - Proposed list of active members based on the feedback on the WG announcement from NMOs, potentially interested experts within the medical physics community and the EFOMP Board will be composed by the parent committee chair together with the proposed WG chair. The proposed member list has to be approved by the EFOMP Board. WG members have to create an efficient and optimal composition of expertise and professional coverage. WG members can be updated also later if and when needed.
- 10) **Consultants/Observers** - Proposed other WG participants who are indicated as consultants or observers. The parent committee chair together with the proposed WG chair will identify possible consultants/observers.
- 11) **Funding** - Description of the WG funding needs (meetings, etc.) and how the finances will be acquired and managed. This part is optional and can also be zero.
- 12) **Timeline** - WG timetable described by main milestones and reporting. Interim progress reporting must be provided at least in 6 months intervals.
- 13) **Proposed outline of the final report** - What should be included in order to reach the planned outcome.