

BIOMEDEA III

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Importance of International CE Certification

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The Practice of Clinical Engineering

- Common international profession
- Clinical Engineers
 - Similar responsibilities
 - Similar challenges
 - Similar obstacles
 - Differences only in regional codes and standards & regional resources
- More similarities than differences



The Environment

- Healthcare Community is struggling for common standards (GHTF)
- Common technology is being more widely dispersed
- Standardization in maintenance support is being promoted
- Standardization in clinical engineering practices and tools should be promoted



International CE Certification

Benefits

- Defines standardized practices
- Creates foundation of common practices
- Can accommodate regional variation
- Standardization will increase recognition of profession as well as individuals

International CE Certification

- Begins with the development of an international CE *Body of Knowledge*
 - What does a CE need to know to function
 - This becomes the basis for certification exam
 - International point of reference for CE practice
 - Used to define / validate curriculum
 - This information will make a very interesting article for an international journal

International CE Certification

Implementation Methodology

- Identify *Body of knowledge* via questionnaire
- Identify existing international organization (e.g. IFMBE-CED or ??) to be governing body or advisory body
- Form a *Certification Commission*
- Identify testing agency to assist in test development & administration (quality control, security, logistics)
- Create exam questions



International CE Certification

- Develop an exam based on the importance of key categories of information:
 - Technology management
 - Service delivery management
 - Safety and risk management
 - Education
 - Etc.

International CE Certification

- Identify interested countries to join the process (Brazil, Malaysia, China, India, Japan, Mexico, Latin America, Africa, EU, USA, etc.)
- Translate basic exam to appropriate languages
- Create regional Boards of Examiners to administrate the program locally and develop local questions
 - Codes, Standards, local practices

Benefits

- Standardization in the knowledge CEs possess will improve:
 - Quality of maintenance practices
 - Safety of patient care systems
 - Quality of vendor support
 - Quality of user effectiveness
 - Quality of Healthcare

Benefits

- Standardization of
 - Knowledge CEs possess
 - CE practices
 - Transfer of knowledge and data
 - CE educational curriculum
 - CE educational programs



Thank You!

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