

FROM AUs:

“I recommend that the NRC collaborate with the American Board of Radiology (ABR) and American Osteopathic Board of Radiology (AOBR) in order to determine the training and experience required for AUs under 10 CFR 35.390. These entities set forth the requirements for residency training in diagnostic radiology and nuclear medicine. They also administer the certification test that determines whether or not a graduate is Authorized User (AU) eligible. There should not be multiple pathways or criteria to attain this designation, nor should a physician have to take additional tests once the ABR and/or AOBR grant them AU status.

Furthermore, this foundational knowledge should be obtained in a residency program at a facility hosting formal graduate medical education. Professors/faculty at teaching facilities should ensure that their training program/curriculum complies with ABR/AOBR requirements and NRC regulations.”

“The AU should be familiar with the basic handling and management of the radiopharmaceuticals, but everything from the structure of an atom through to kit preparation are not our purview. We should be focused on and facile with patient safety, appropriate use, how to interpret, pitfalls/contamination recognition, how and when to report an event. The detail in the questionnaire would make us all fellowship trained in nuclear medicine. If this is what they want, they should make more nuc med radiologists... or shut down nucs in places that don't have one.”