

# **Board Certification for Radiation Safety Officers**

**Richard J. Vetter, Ph.D.**

**Mayo Clinic**

**on behalf of**

**ACMUI**

# **Current 10 CFR 35.900**

**RSO must be:**

**(a) certified by a board from list**

**OR**

**(b) training requirements**

**AND**

**one year experience under  
supervision of RSO**

# **New 10 CFR 35.50**

**RSO must be**

**(a) certified by a specialty board  
that includes (b) & (c)**

**OR**

**(B) training requirements**

**AND**

**(C) preceptorship**

# **Unintended Consequences**

- **Increased burden on NRC staff**
- **Marginalize board certification**
- **Undermine effective industry standard**

# Remedies

- **Short term: Accept health physics certification by ABHP, ABMP, ABR, and ABSNM**
- **Long term: Rulemaking to remove 35.50(b) as a board requirement**

# **BACKUP SLIDE: The Problem (Examples)**

- **ABHP: doesn't focus exclusively on medical, thus no medical preceptorship required**

# **BACKUP SLIDE: The Problem (Examples)**

- **ABMP requires graduate degree without hours enumerated or written certification by preceptor RSO**

# **BACKUP SLIDE: Unintended Consequences**

- **Reduced pool of qualified RSOs?**
- **Reduce quality of practice?**
- **Undermine public health?**

# **BACKUP SLIDE: Board Certification**

- **Qualifications (examples):**
  - **ABHP: B.S. & 5 yrs experience similar to 35.50(b) + references**
  - **ABMP: M.S. & 6 yrs experience similar to 35.50(b) + references**

# **BACKUP SLIDE: Board Certification**

- **Assess adequacy of judgment and knowledge to independently practice medical health physics**