Message from the Chairman of the IOMP Education and Training Committee, Prof. John Damilakis

Dear colleagues,

Could radiation therapy exist without medical physics? The obvious answer is No. The impressive progress in radiation oncology over the past decades has been largely due to our ability to more effectively deliver radiation to the tumour while minimising the dose to surrounding normal tissue.

Nevertheless, the general public is not aware of the critical role medical physicists play in providing services in RO departments. It is important to inform the public on the responsibilities of medical physicists and draw attention of the media to the important role that medical physics play in the health care system.

To raise awareness of our profession, the International Organisation for Medical Physics celebrates annually the International Day of Medical Physics (IDMP) on 7 November, an important date in the history of medical physics. On that day in 1867, Marie Curie, known for her pioneering research on radioactivity, was born in Poland.

We will celebrate the 3rd IDMP on 7 November 2015. The theme will be 'Better MP = Better Cancer Care in RO'. IOMP is drawing attention to the many ways in which medical physics has revolutionised medicine through contributions in RO.

I look forward to your active participation in the IDMP events in November!

Prof. John Damilakis