November 16, 2022

Dear Dr. Stewart:

At its meeting on November 4-5, 2022, the Joint Review Committee on Educational Programs in Nuclear Medicine Technology (JRCNMT) evaluated the Mid-Cycle and Annual Reports submitted by the nuclear medicine technology program at Miami Dade College Medical Campus. The program was eligible for a two-year extension of accreditation, however, upon review of the Annual Report, the board determined that the program is not meeting Standards D.3.1b and D.3.4. Accordingly, the program was placed on probation and accreditation extended for only one year. The details of the board’s review are provided below.

Annual Report

D3.1b  Assessment of program effectiveness must, at a minimum, document the regular collection and analysis of graduate performance on the national certification examinations.

*Within the Annual Report, on Form J: Program Effectiveness, the JRCNMT sets a benchmark of 80% as a rolling three-year pass rate for first-time examinees on the national certification examinations. The program’s pass rate for 2019-2021 is 37%, which is significantly below the JRCNMT benchmark and the national pass rate.*

Since 2019, 7 of 17 (41%) of total program graduates have not obtained employment as a nuclear medicine technologist. This can be attributed to the low pass rate since graduates who do not pass one of the national certification exams cannot obtain employment in the profession.

*In the May 1, 2019 letter granting initial accreditation to the program*, the JRCNMT noted this as a compliance concern and stated its expectation that the program would review its practices and curriculum to ensure future pass rate averages are at 80% or higher to be in compliance with this standard. The program was commended for the improved pass rate of its 2018 graduates; however, more recent reporting to JRCNMT shows that the positive trend in annual and three-year pass rates did not continue. The board finds the program is deficient in meeting this standard.

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1 2021 nuclear medicine national pass rates: ARRT exam 79.5% and NMTCB exam 83.7%.

2 See May 1, 2019 letter from Jan M. Winn to Bryan Stewart, PhD, President, Medical Campus, Miami Dade College, p. 2.
D3.4 The results of ongoing assessment must be appropriately reflected in the curriculum and other dimensions of the program. In particular, the program must systematically document the application of assessment results in the process of program improvement.

*Form L in the Annual Report, and the program’s previous Pass Rate Progress Report, have provided general plans to address the program’s low certification exam pass rate. Successive reports, which are intended to build off one another and demonstrate the results of changes implemented in the previous year, fail to demonstrate continuity and on-going attention to issues over successive years.*

*With on-going low certification exam pass rates and graduate employment rates, it is imperative that the program conduct a thorough analysis of all aspects of the program, from admissions to curriculum, implement significant changes, monitor carefully for results and provide detailed reports to the JRCNMT. Delays in review and action, which have been noted in the program’s reports, are not acceptable if the program is to successfully prepare students for a career in nuclear medicine technology.*

The program must undertake the following in the upcoming year:

- Submission of a satisfactory Pass Rate Progress Report, due no later than **February 1, 2023**. The report form is attached to the email that delivered this letter. The JRCNMT requests that the report includes a letter from the appropriate dean or higher administrator describing the institutional support that is or will be provided to aid the program director in making effective program improvements in the upcoming year;
- Submission of a satisfactory Annual Report, due no later than **August 1, 2023**; and
- Completion of a satisfactory focused site visit. The purpose of the visit, which will likely occur in September of 2023, is to verify the information contained within these two reports.

At the fall 2023 JRCNMT meeting, the board will consider the reports and results of the focused visit, paying particular attention to the thoroughness of the program’s assessment process and follow through on its commitment to making program changes that result in improved graduate outcomes, including certification exam pass rates. At that time, the board may remove probation and extend accreditation for one year, or, if it finds the program continues to be deficient in meeting the standards, the board may continue probation for an additional year or withdraw accreditation subject to appeal.

**Mid-Cycle Report**

The program’s Mid-Cycle Report was considered satisfactory by the board but adjustments were made to the clinical affiliate roster based on the new clinical data included in the report. Analysis indicated that some student capacities required modification while two affiliates were eliminated because annual procedure volumes were below published JRCNMT thresholds. Directors did not approve retaining the two facilities with a temporary student capacity of zero. If the procedure volume increases at either facility in the future, the program may submit an affiliate application to have the facility reviewed and recognized by the JRCNMT.

The table provided in Appendix A identifies the program’s approved clinical affiliates, the current student capacity at each affiliate and the program’s total clinical education capacity.

**Reconsideration of Probation**

In accordance with JRCNMT policy 2.800 (enclosed), an institution may request reconsideration of probation if it believes the factual accuracy of a deficiency is in question. The request, due by **December 9, 2022**, must include evidence demonstrating that a deficiency was cited in error.
If reconsideration is not requested prior to the stated deadline, notification of this decision will be forwarded to the institution’s accrediting agency. The information will also be made available to the public through the JRCNMT website and its publications.

A program on probation is required to advise current and prospective students of the probationary status on its website and in publications (JRCNMT policy 2.150, pages 16-17). In addition, a program on probation may not add clinical affiliates or expand its student capacity until the probationary status has been removed, except when addition of clinical affiliates is necessary to address a cited deficiency.

Please contact the JRCNMT office if there are questions regarding the content of this letter.

Sincerely,

Jan M. Winn, M.Ed., RT(N), CNMT
Executive Director

Att: Pass Rate Progress Report
JRCNMT Policy 2.800
JRCMT Policy 2.150, pp. 16-17

cc: Agdanamai Luis, MSEd, RT(N), CNMT
Nuclear Medicine Program Director

Alwyn Leiba, PhD
Chair, Health Sciences

JRCNMT Executive Officers
# Appendix A: Table of Clinical Affiliates

**Nuclear Medicine Technology**  
**Miami Dade College Medical Campus**  
**November 15, 2022**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Affiliate</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Approved for This Program</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Baptist Hospital</td>
<td>Miami, FL</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bruce W Carter VA Medical Center</td>
<td>Miami, FL</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homestead Hospital</td>
<td>Homestead, FL</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jackson Memorial Hospital</td>
<td>Miami, FL</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lakes Radiology – Dade</td>
<td>Miami Lakes, FL</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mercy Hospital</td>
<td>Miami, FL</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nicklaus Children’s Hospital</td>
<td>Miami, FL</td>
<td>Arr @ 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Palmetto General Hospital</td>
<td>Hialeah, FL</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Miami Hospital</td>
<td>South Miami, FL</td>
<td>Arr @ 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UM Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center</td>
<td>Miami, FL</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Miami Hospital</td>
<td>Miami, FL</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Kendall Baptist Hospital</td>
<td>Miami, FL</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total program capacity** 18