

PARCA status update



Herman Oosterwijk

Member PARCA advisory board



Sys Admin slide 1

Agenda:

- ***PACS SA background***
- ***Certification by PARCA***
- ***Discussion***



Sys Admin slide 2

PACS SA background:

- **The continuous quest and discussion:**
 - **IT or RT?**
 - **Reporting structure?**
 - **How many people are needed?**
 - **How much money would they make?**

PACS SA background:

- **Poll info:**
 - **46% IT, 38% clinical background**
 - **40%: clinical critical**
 - **37: IT critical**
 - **23%: no preference**

PACS SA background (cont):

- ***60% report to radiology***
- ***26% to IT***
- ***remainder to other depts***

- ***53% one person for support***
- ***25% two FTE's***
- ***22%: more than 2 FTE's***

PACS admin certification?

- ***90%: yes, is desired***
- ***83%: I would consider certification***

- ***50% feels additional IT training required***
- ***37% both clinical and IT training required***

PACS System Administration



PACS Administrators Registry and Certification Association

Sys Admin slide 7

PACS System Administration

PARCA
PACS Administrators Registry and Certification Association

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Home

Welcome

Important News: CPAS, CPA, and CPSA Exams Now Available

PARCA's mission is to develop and provide certification for professionals who are engaged with the support, maintenance and day-to-day management of Picture Archiving and Communication Systems (PACS).

Certification is provided at four different levels, i.e. as a **Certified PACS Associate (CPAS)**, **Certified PACS Interface Analyst (CPA)**, **Certified PACS System Analyst (CPSA)**, and/or **Certified PACS System Manager (CPSM)**. In order to become certified, one has to meet all the **certification requirements**, and, as **prerequisite** pass the **certification exams**. In order to sign up for an exam, as well as receive a quarterly newsletter, **membership** of the association is required.

We have an **advisory board** of professionals from the systems, film, imaging industry and health care providers which assist us with the definition of the certification requirements and examinations.

Contact us if you have any questions, comments, or are willing to participate in our association.

[Click here to view the PARCA press release.](#)

Not Jobs

- Customer Advocate - PACS
Any Location US
- PACS Administrator
US
- Junior PACS Administrator, Clinical experience (Baltimore area)
Baltimore, MD
- Business Services BE Consultants - CONTRACT - 6 months (Ohio)
Cleveland, OH
- PACS Administrator Project

Sys Admin slide 8

What is PARCA?

- ***An Association to provide Certification for PACS administrators***
- ***An independent Association***
- ***No affiliation (yet) with any professional organizations***

PARCA is NOT a

- ***Training institution and/or company***
- ***Provider of training materials***

Why PARCA?

- ***Managing PACS systems is getting increasingly complex***
- ***PARCA provides the following:***
 - ***a benchmark for an organization to know whether a professional might have the skills to perform all his/her duties***
 - ***a benchmark for training programs***
 - ***a certification for professionals***

Organization of PARCA?

- **Governance is by group of experts, mainly drawn from ranks of SA's and training professionals**
- **Advisory group and consultants:**
 - Kevin Baker, RT ARRT, MSCS
 - Melissa Blado, BSIE, BSCCS
 - John Carrino, MD, MPH
 - Oliver Esch, MD
 - Don Jollota, RN
 - Herman Oosterwijk, MS, MBA
 - Ed Smith, ScD, FACNP
 - Mike Henderson, BS
- **Executive Secretary for daily operations
Suzanne Hunter**

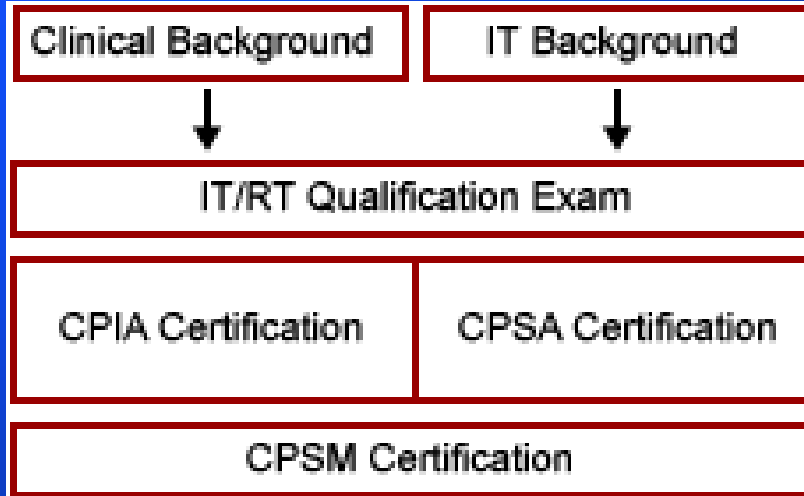
Sys Admin slide 11

Requirements and certifications:

- **3 levels:**
 - **Entrance level: basic computer, IT, and IN ADDITION clinical skills**
 - **CPSA: emphasis on workflow, and general PACS knowledge**
 - **CPIA: emphasis on technical details, DICOM, HL7, IHE**
 - **CPSM: truly "master": image quality, advanced networking, security**

Sys Admin slide 12

Requirements and certifications (cont):



Examinations:

- **Developed by 8-10 domain experts**
- **Checked by advisory board**
- **Reviewed by academic expert**
- **Currently on-line**
- **Note: examinations are purely a measure, the emphasis should be on acquiring the skills and knowledge**

Status:

- **Established feb 2005**
- **More than 500 members joined since its start**
- **Certified:**
 - **117 technical;156 clinical**
 - **CPAS 106**
 - **CPIA 11**
 - **CPSA 26**

Cost:

- **Minimal membership fee**
- **\$30/year**
- **\$200 for certification**
- **\$500 for master certification**
 - **Note Conference specials! (till April 1)**

Future of certification:

- **SIIM (formerly SCAR) plans also certification, end of 2007**
- **Both certifications will very likely co-exist with PARCA having the advantage of having experience and a head-start**
- **The titles are already showing up in resumes and some job postings**
- **Still un-chartered territory**
- **Several trade magazines are paying attention**
- **Active discussions at auntminnie etc.**

Independent PACS Admin Training Schools:

- [Clarkson College](#)
- [Indiana University](#)
- [Michener Institute](#)
- [MTMI](#)
- [Ogeechee Technical College](#)
- [OTech, Inc.](#)
- [Radiology Consulting Group](#)
- [Radiological Service Training Institute](#)
- [SG&A Consulting, Inc.](#)
- [The Advanced Health Education Center](#)

Resources/Questions/Remarks:

- **Remarks/Questions:**
 - **suzanna@pacsadmin.org**
- **PARCA information available at www.pacsadmin.org**
- **Comprehensive list of resources, books, CD's, study guides and institutions offering courses, etc.**



Thank you!