

ADRIANA VELAZQUEZ BERUMEN, HONORARY MEMBER, INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MEDICAL PHYSICS (IOMP), 2015



Adriana is a biomedical engineer of Mexican origin currently senior advisor of Medical Devices in the Essential Medicines and Health Products Department, Health Systems and Innovation Cluster of the World Health Organization (WHO) in Geneva, Switzerland, where she has been since 2008. The unit has created a website that includes all WHO publications on medical devices, a list server for disseminating information on medical devices and has created a network of focal points responsible of Medical Devices from Ministries of Health .

She is founder of CENETEC (National Center for Health Technology Excellence/ Centro Nacional de Excelencia Tecnologica en Salud) in Mexican Ministry of Health and of Global Initiative on Health Technologies, Medical Devices Technical series and Compendium of innovative technologies for Low resource settings in WHO, and of the Global Forum on Medical devices, which has convened around 700 participants from 100 countries in 2010 and 2013

She is an passionate about delivery of health services with appropriate and affordable health technologies particularly for those in low resource settings, specially the sickest and the poorest. She believes in collaboration and thus has created networks with Academia, industry representatives, NGOs and experts around the world. Among her latest achievements at the WHO, a notable one is her getting a number of non-governmental organizations admitted into official relations with WHO in January 2015: (Global Medical Technology Alliance; Humatem; International Organization for Medical Physics; RAD-AID International; Health Technology

Assessment international; Global Diagnostic Imaging, Healthcare IT and Radiation Therapy Trade Association), to add to the existing ones in radiology ISR, radiographers, ISRRT, biomedical engineering IFMBE and hospital engineering IFHE, among others.

She has had various honorary positions as president of the Mexican Biomedical Engineering Society,(SOMIB), President of the latin American council for Biomedical Engineering (CORAL), chair of the clinical engineering division of IFMBE, and member of the board of INAHTA, network of health technology assessment agencies.

We are now in the XXI century and still patients have no access to indispensable technologies, what will you do?

Adriana firmly believes that the medical physicists are indispensable health work force, to provide safer and quality treatment to cancer patients to increase their survival and quality of life.

Access to affordable and good quality technologies to diagnose and treat patients is difficult but when you have a dream, share it, do not give up, fight for it and ask like-minded to join you, that is the only way to succeed.

Health technologies can provide early diagnosis and effective treatment when used safely, let the medical physicist support your work on radiation, to prevent premature mortality.

IOMP is delighted and honored and to have Adriana as a Honorary member.

Congratulations on behalf of IOMP Executive Committee.

Madan M Rehani, PhD,
Secretary-General, IOMP
Vice President Elect, IOMP