



**Society for Clinical and Medical Hair Removal, Inc.**

2810 Crossroads Drive, Suite 3800

Madison, WI 53718-7961

Tel: 608-443-2470 • Fax: 608-443-2474

EM: [homeoffice@scmhr.org](mailto:homeoffice@scmhr.org) • Web: [www.scmhr.org](http://www.scmhr.org)

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CT General Assembly Public Health Committee

Senate Bill 1254

March 5, 2007

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The Society for Clinical and Medical Hair Removal (SCMHR) recognizes the need for trained professionals in the area of laser hair removal. Some people are misguided into believing that the only appropriately-trained professionals are physicians. SCMHR begs to differ. Because SCMHR is dedicated to safe, effective hair removal for everyone, the certification arm for the SCMHR, the International Commission for Hair Removal Certification (ICHRC), has developed and implemented a certification exam for laser hair removal.

The Certified Laser Hair Removal Professional exam, a 100-question written exam, was developed for anyone practicing laser hair removal, including physicians, nurses, medical estheticians, physician's assistants, and electrologists.

The exam was written by a writing team that was hand-picked by ICHRC. The team was selected for their collective expertise in the field, and included to renowned physicians, Gregory Chernoff, MD, and Elliot Lach, MD, in addition to a nurse and three electrologists who practice laser hair removal. These professionals, along with the expertise of Herbert Bawden and Gerald Rosen of the Personnel Research Center, met in 2003 and 2004 to develop this exam.

SCMHR and ICHRC recognize that simply passing an exam does not constitute lifelong knowledge in an ever-evolving profession like laser hair removal. In order to maintain certification, one must earn 75 hours of continuing education in the field over a period of five years. These hours are recorded and maintained at the SCMHR's Home Office. The ICHRC enforces this requirement to ensure that each certified person obtains current information in professional development, explores new knowledge in specific content areas, masters new skills and techniques, and conducts his or her professional practice in a safe, ethical manner. If one does not accrue the appropriate number of continuing education hours, the exam must be retaken and passed to maintain certification.

The state of North Carolina currently recognizes ICHRC's Certified Clinical Electrologist exam as its state's licensing exam for Electrology, The state of Florida recognizes ICHRC's Certified Medical Electrologist exam to allow nonphysicians to practice laser hair removal. Other states, such as Texas, are currently considering the CLHRP as a requirement for practicing laser hair removal in those states.

Please join with SCMHR in our stand that laser education, training and certification are the primary considerations when deciding on who are the appropriate professionals to practice laser hair removal.