

XXX. REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE PRACTICE OF RADIOLOGIST ASSISTANTS

A. DEFINITIONS

1. A.R.R.T. - American Registry of Radiologic Technologists.
2. Full Certification - Certification obtained by submitting certification issued by the A.R.R.T.
3. Radiologist - A physician licensed by the Mississippi State Board of Medical Licensure who is certified or eligible to be certified by the American Board of Radiology.
4. Radiologist Assistant Certification - Certification obtained by submitting proof of A.R.R.T. certification as a radiologist assistant which will enable the holder to perform any and all radiologist assistant procedures or functions as defined in Section C below in a radiology practice or radiologist's office.
5. Direct Supervision - The radiologist must be present in the office suite and immediately available to furnish assistance and direction throughout the performance of all procedures. "Direct supervision" does not mean that the supervising radiologist must be present in the room when the procedure is performed.

B. EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

1. Be a graduate of a radiologist assistant educational program and a radiologist directed clinical preceptorship culminating in the award of a baccalaureate degree or its equivalent from an institution offering a program accredited by an entity recognized by the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists for certification purposes; and
2. Be currently certified by the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists as a radiologist assistant (RA); and
3. Be currently certified and registered with the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists as a radiologic technologist (RT); and
4. Be currently certified in advanced cardiac life support (ACLS); and
5. Possess current and unencumbered registration as a radiologic technologist with the Mississippi State Department of Health; and
6. Biennially attend and complete twenty-four (24) hours of radiological

related continuing education courses sponsored or approved by any of the following organizations:

- a. Mississippi Society of Radiologic Technologists
- b. Mississippi Radiological Society
- c. Mississippi Medical Association
- d. American Medical Association
- e. American Society of Radiologic Technologists
- f. American Registry of Radiologic Technologists
- g. American College of Radiology

C. SUPERVISION

The employing radiologist(s), or a radiologist designated by the employing physician(s) as a substitute supervisor, shall exercise supervision and assume full control and responsibility for the services provided by any person practicing as a radiologist assistant employed in the radiologist's practice. Unless otherwise specified in this regulation, direct supervision of the radiologist assistant is not required, but any services being provided by a radiologist assistant must be performed at either the physical location of the radiologist's primary medical practice or any healthcare facility where the supervising radiologist holds staff privileges.

D. SCOPE

1. Before being authorized to perform any x-ray procedure or operate any x-ray equipment in a physician's office, the supervising radiologist shall place documentation in the person's personnel file to prove the person being authorized has the appropriate certification required for either or both the procedure being performed and/or the equipment being used and that such certification is current.
2. The radiologist assistant shall evaluate the day's schedule of procedures with the supervising radiologist and determine where the radiologist assistant's skills will be best utilized.
3. After demonstrating competency the radiologist assistant when ordered to do so by the supervising radiologist may:
 - a. perform selected procedures under the direct supervision of a

radiologist including static and dynamic fluoroscopic procedures;

- b. assess and evaluate the physiologic and psychological responsiveness of patients undergoing radiologic procedures;
 - c. evaluate image quality, make initial image observations and communicate observations of image quality to the supervising radiologist; and
 - d. administer intravenous contrast media or other prescribed medications.
4. The radiologist assistant may not interpret images, make diagnoses, or prescribe medications or therapies.
 5. The radiologist assistant shall adhere to the code of ethics of the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists and to national, institutional and/or departmental standards, policies and procedures regarding the standards of care for patients.