

## Chapter RAD 4

### SCOPE OF PRACTICE

RAD 4.01 Radiographer scope of practice.

RAD 4.02 Limited X–ray machine operator scope of practice.

**RAD 4.01 Radiographer scope of practice. (1) GENERAL SCOPE OF PRACTICE.** The practice of a radiographer involves the performance of radiography and radiographic procedures and related techniques to produce images for the interpretation by, or at the request of, a licensed independent practitioner. Radiographers perform the radiographic examination to create the images needed for medical diagnosis and apply scientific knowledge, technical skills, patient interaction, and care necessary to obtain diagnostic information. Radiographers may apply radiation to any part of the human body, may administer contrast agents and related substances for diagnostic purposes.

**(2) APPLICABLE STANDARDS.** The scope of practice of a licensed radiographer includes all of the following, as defined in the Radiography Standards, Practice Standards for Medical Imaging and Radiation Therapy, 2016 American Society of Radiologic Technologists:

- (a) Providing optimal patient care.
- (b) Receiving, relaying, and documenting verbal, written, and electronic orders in the patient's medical record.
- (c) Corroborating a patient's clinical history with procedure and ensuring information is documented and available for use by a licensed independent practitioner.
- (d) Verifying informed consent for applicable procedures.
- (e) Assuming responsibility for patient needs during procedures.
- (f) Preparing patients for procedures.
- (g) Applying principles of ALARA, or As Low As Reasonably Achievable, to minimize exposure to patient, self, and others.
- (h) Performing venipuncture as prescribed by a licensed independent practitioner.
- (i) Starting, maintaining, and removing intravenous access as prescribed by a licensed independent practitioner.
- (j) Identifying, preparing, and administering medications as prescribed by a licensed independent practitioner.
- (k) Evaluating images for technical quality, ensuring proper identification is recorded.
- (L) Identifying and responding to emergency situations.
- (m) Providing education.
- (n) Educating and monitoring students and other health care providers.
- (o) Performing ongoing quality assurance activities.
- (p) Applying the principles of patient safety during all aspects of patient care.
- (q) Performing diagnostic radiographic and noninterpretive fluoroscopic procedures as prescribed by a licensed independent practitioner.
- (r) Determining technical exposure factors.
- (s) Assisting a licensed independent practitioner with fluoroscopic and specialized radiologic procedures.

**Note:** The Practice Standards for Medical Imaging and Radiation Therapy issued by the American Society of Radiologic Technologists define ALARA, or As Low As Reasonably Achievable, to mean "making every reasonable effort to maintain exposures to radiation as far below the dose limits as practical, consistent with the purpose for which the licensed activity is undertaken, while taking into account the state of technology, the economics of improvements in relation to state of technology, the economics of improvements in relation to benefits to the public health and safety and

other societal and socioeconomic considerations, and in relation to the use of nuclear energy and licensed materials in the public interest."

**Note:** Copies of the Standard are on file at the office of the Department of Safety and Professional Services and the Legislative Reference Bureau.

**History:** CR 11–016: cr. Register August 2011 No. 668, eff. 9–1–11; CR 16–030: am. (2) Register January 2018 No. 745, eff. 2–1–18; **CR 17–082: cr. (1) (title), renum. (2) to (2) (intro.) and am., cr. (2) (a) to (s) Register September 2018 No. 753, eff. 10–1–18.**

**RAD 4.02 Limited X–ray machine operator scope of practice. (1) GENERAL SCOPE OF PRACTICE.** The LXMO performs radiographic procedures and related techniques within the practice of radiography under the supervision of a licensed radiography or other health care provider, consistent with the LXMO's limited scope education, training and examination.

**(2) APPLICABLE STANDARDS.** The scope of practice of an LXMO includes all of the following, as defined in the Limited X–ray Machine Operator Practice Standards, 2016 American Society of Radiologic Technologists:

- (a) Providing optimal patient care.
- (b) Corroborating a patient's clinical history with procedure and ensuring information is documented and available for use by a licensed independent practitioner.
- (c) Preparing patients for procedures.
- (d) Assuming responsibility for patient needs during procedures.
- (e) Applying principles of ALARA, or As Low As Reasonably Achievable, to minimize exposure to patient, self, and others.
- (f) Evaluating images for technical quality and ensuring proper identification is recorded.
- (g) Identifying and responding to emergency situations.
- (h) Providing education.
- (i) Performing ongoing quality assurance activities.
- (j) Applying the principles of patient safety during all aspects of patient care.
- (k) Performing radiographic procedures limited to education or the specific area of anatomical interest based on training and licensure or certification as prescribed by a licensed independent practitioner.
- (L) Assisting a licensed independent practitioner or radiographer during static radiographic procedures.
- (m) Determining technical exposure factors in accordance with the principles of ALARA, or As Low As Reasonably Achievable.
- (n) Evaluating images for overall diagnostic quality.
- (o) Assisting a licensed independent practitioner or radiographer in providing patient education.

**Note:** The Practice Standards for Medical Imaging and Radiation Therapy issued by the American Society of Radiologic Technologists define ALARA, or As Low As Reasonably Achievable, to mean "making every reasonable effort to maintain exposures to radiation as far below the dose limits as practical, consistent with the purpose for which the licensed activity is undertaken, while taking into account the state of technology, the economics of improvements in relation to state of technology, the economics of improvements in relation to benefits to the public health and safety and other societal and socioeconomic considerations, and in relation to the use of nuclear energy and licensed materials in the public interest."

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