



POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

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ISSUED BY: Board of Directors
CATEGORY: ADMINISTRATION
SUBJECT: MRT SHORTAGES

**POSITION
STATEMENT:**

It is the Position of the Association that the existence of a shortage of Medical Radiation Technologists (MRTs) causes a detrimental effect on the healthcare system in Ontario.

**IMPORTANT
CONSIDERATIONS:**

MRTs are professionals who work in the hub of the healthcare system providing Diagnostic Imaging and Radiation Therapy patient care. A critical shortage of MRTs has the potential of crippling the entire healthcare system.

MRTs are highly trained individuals who operate very sophisticated equipment who dispense doses of radiant energies and perform and/or participate in a spectrum of medical procedures.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Association offers the following recommendations to strategically address a situation for a potential situation of a shortage of MRTs.

1. A government agency to monitor the supply and demand of all healthcare providers
2. Provide appropriate funding to didactic and clinical undergraduate education institutions
3. Invoke and/or amend legislation that protects the MRT concerning their working environment to reduce stress and early workforce withdrawal
4. Provide incentives for students to apply to MRT undergraduate training programs
5. Have MRI training programs direct rather than a post-graduate route so MRTs are not robbed from another Discipline/Specialty
6. Require employers to provide a specific percentage of the budget for continuing education

7. The government provide assistance to non-Canadian trained MRTs to become competent in the Ontario MRT practice environment, especially in medical terminology, language and other communication means.
8. The government publically recognize the value of the MRT in the healthcare system.