



POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

DOCUMENT NO: POSN 02-03-18
DATE EFFECTIVE: 1 July 2003
CROSS REFERENCE: A. BoDs Meeting
May 2003
B. BoDs Meeting
Feb 2003
C. POSN 02-01-06
D. POSN 02-01-09

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ISSUED BY: Board of Directors
CATEGORY: PRACTICE
SUBJECT: SCOPE OF PRACTICE ENVELOPE

**POSITION
STATEMENT:**

It is the position of the Association that the profession's scope of practice envelope, in an environment of specific, cross and multi disciplinary practice, is a flexible one which can expand at both ends depending on the evolution of the medical radiant energy field.

DISCUSSION:

The Association believes in the inevitability that the competencies required of medical radiation technologists (MRTs) will become more complex and demanding. This is already happening in other jurisdictions such as the United Kingdom, Australia and the USA to name a few. MRTs in these countries are performing examinations that were once the specific domain of physicians. Due to the increasing sophistication in medicine, physicians such as radiologists are having to spend their time on higher order tasks and MRTs are stepping in to address the gaps left by the physicians.

Just as MRTs are increasing the practice envelope through advance practice skills, so the base of the envelope must be opened to allow individuals to perform tasks MRTs once did but have moved on to higher order ones.

The Association has recognized the need to open the doors to our professional silo in the past. This is recognized through our Limited Practice Category whereby the Basic Radiography Workers as radiological technicians have been admitted by both this Association and our national association. The governors of the Association have recognized for several years that the profession is not an exclusive club and it must be accommodating while still serving the needs of our patients.

**IMPORTANT
CONSIDERATIONS:**

The Regulated Health Professions Act (RHPA) is legislation which was designed to provide flexibility in who provides health care. The position of the Association reflects the intent and spirit of the RHPA.

“Turf Protection” and “silo” mentality have become major barriers to effective health care delivery. Anything that can be done to provide better, effective and more efficient health care should be done as long as the appropriate standards are in place and are enforced.

