



CMRTO Standards of Practice to include diagnostic medical sonography

The Council of the College of Medical Radiation Technologists of Ontario (CMRTO) has proposed revisions to the CMRTO Standards of Practice and Code of Ethics in preparation for the regulation of diagnostic medical sonographers with CMRTO. The registration regulation establishing diagnostic medical sonography as a fifth specialty with CMRTO is expected to come into force on January 1, 2018 or shortly thereafter.

The CMRTO's Standards of Practice and Code of Ethics set out the minimum requirements for professional practice and conduct for members, and are meant to assure the quality of professional practice.

Because the practice of medical radiation technology will now include the use of soundwaves for diagnostic ultrasound for the purpose of diagnostic procedures, the evaluation of images and data relating to the procedures and the assessment of an individual before, during and after the procedure, the Standards of Practice and Code of Ethics have to be amended.

Standards of Practice & Code of Ethics Consultation

In November, the CMRTO circulated a survey to all medical radiation technologists, diagnostic medical sonographers, other health professionals and members of the public to get feedback regarding the proposed revisions to these standards.

The survey closed at midnight on November 30, 2017 and Council considered all feedback about the proposed revisions, keeping in mind the CMRTO's mandate to protect the public interest. We received and reviewed almost 200 comments on the proposed amendments from current members and diagnostic medical sonographers, and made further changes based on those comments.

New Standards of Practice & Code of Ethics

On December 8, 2017, Council considered the feedback from the consultation survey and approved the revised Standards of Practice and Code of Ethics to come into effect when the registration regulation comes into force on January 1, 2018 or the date on which it is filed. CMRTO will announce the date on which everything comes into force as soon as we receive confirmation from the provincial government.

Format of Standards of Practice & Code of Ethics

In the consultation survey, we asked members and diagnostic medical sonographers to indicate whether they prefer to receive the new publications in electronic or paper format. Over 80% of respondents indicated they would prefer an electronic copy. When the new Standards of Practice come into effect, (expected on January 1, 2018 or shortly after) CMRTO will send all current members notice by email, and the PDF documents will be posted to the CMRTO website.



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