

# X-ray Unit Information Notice

## INDIVIDUAL QUALIFIED TO OPERATE X-RAY SYSTEMS ON LIVING HUMANS

Date: July 14, 2020

To: Facilities in Minnesota with X-ray Systems

From: Teresa Purrington, BS, RT (R) (CT), Supervisor, X-ray Program

Subject: Individuals Qualified to Operate X-ray Systems on Living Humans

The Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) is issuing this Information Notice to inform registrants to the recent law changes in [Minnesota Statute, 144.121](#) involving individuals who can operate x-ray systems on living humans. The 2020 Legislature authorized additional individuals who can operate x-ray systems on living humans and will be effective August 1, 2020.

An individual in a facility with x-ray systems for use on living humans that is registered with MDH may not operate, nor may the facility allow the individual to operate, x-ray systems unless the individual has passed a national or state examination.

Individuals who may operate x-ray systems include:

1. an individual who has passed the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT) registry for radiography examination;
2. an individual who has passed the American Chiropractic Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ACRRT) registry examination and is limited to radiography of spines and extremities;
3. a registered limited scope x-ray operator and a registered bone densitometry equipment operator who passed the examination in [Minnesota Statute, 144.121](#);
4. an x-ray operator who has the original certificate or the original letter of passing the examination that was required before January 1, 2008;
5. an individual who has passed the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT) registry for radiation therapy examination according to subdivision 5e **[please see below]**;
6. a cardiovascular technologist according to subdivision 5c **[please see below]**;
7. a nuclear medicine technologist according to subdivision 5d **[please see below]**;

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8. an individual who has passed the examination for a dental hygienist under section [150A.06](#), and only operates dental x-ray systems;
9. an individual who has passed the examination for a dental therapist under section [150A.06](#), and only operates dental x-ray systems;
10. an individual who has passed the examination for a dental assistant under section [150A.06](#), and only operates dental x-ray systems;
11. an individual who has passed the examination under [Minnesota Rules, part 3100.8500, subpart 3](#), and only operates dental x-ray systems; and
12. a qualified practitioner who is licensed by a health-related licensing board with active practice authority and is working within the practitioner's scope of practice.

### **Subd. 5c. Cardiovascular technologist practice.**

(a) Cardiovascular technologists may assist with the operation of fluoroscopy equipment if they:

(1) are credentialed by Cardiovascular Credentialing International as a registered cardiovascular invasive specialist or as a registered cardiac electrophysiology specialist, are a graduate of an educational program accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs, which uses the standards and criteria established by the Joint Review Committee on Education in Cardiovascular Technology, or are designated on a variance granted by the commissioner effective July 31, 2019; and

(2) are under the personal supervision and in the physical presence of a qualified practitioner for diagnosing or treating a disease or condition of the cardiovascular system in fluoroscopically guided interventional procedures. Cardiovascular technologists may not activate the fluoroscopic system or evaluate quality control tests.

(b) A cardiovascular technologist who is participating in a training or educational program in any of the occupations listed in this subdivision is exempt from the examination requirement within the scope and for the duration of the training or educational program.

### **Subd. 5d. Nuclear medicine technologist practice.**

(a) Nuclear medicine technologists who have passed the primary pathway credential in Nuclear Medicine Technology Certification Board (NMTCB) for nuclear medicine or the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT) for nuclear medicine technology or the American Society of Clinical Pathologists (NM) (ASCP) may operate a fusion imaging device or a dual imaging device that uses radioactive material as a point source in transmission scanning and attenuation correction.

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(b) A nuclear medicine technologist in paragraph (a) may only operate a stand-alone computed tomography x-ray system if the technologist has passed the Nuclear Medicine Technology Certification Board for computed tomography (CT) or is credentialed in computed tomography (CT) from the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT).

(c) A nuclear medicine technologist who meets the requirements under paragraph (a) and who is participating in a training or educational program to obtain a credential under paragraph (b) is exempt from the examination requirement within the scope and for the duration of the training or educational program.

### **Subd. 5e. Radiation therapy technologist practice.**

(a) A radiation therapy technologist who has passed the primary pathway credential in radiation therapy may operate radiation therapy accelerator and simulator x-ray systems.

(b) A radiation therapy technologist in paragraph (a) may only operate a stand-alone computed tomography x-ray system if the technologist has passed and is credentialed in computed tomography (CT) from the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT).

(c) A radiation therapy technologist who meets the requirements under paragraph (a) and who is participating in a training or educational program to obtain a credential under paragraph (b) is exempt from the examination requirement within the scope and for the duration of the training or educational program.

For specific questions related to this informational notice, please email [health.x-ray@state.mn.us](mailto:health.x-ray@state.mn.us).

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