2009
RATIONALE FOR REVISIONS

PART B
REGISTRATION [LICENSURE] OF RADIATION MACHINE FACILITIES, AND ASSOCIATED HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS

Introduction

The option of licensure versus registration of radiation machine facilities and services has been added to reflect current authority in some states. Qualifications for health physicists, medical physicists, radiologic technologists, and nuclear medicine technologists have been added to Part B to facilitate recognition of professions related to diagnostic imaging as well as to fusion imaging. Additional appendices have been added to provide states with procedures relative to radiation safety officer (RSO) requirements, responsibilities of RSOs, minimum education and training for persons performing radiation machine assembly, installation or repair, and screening. In addition, the use of brackets indicates optional use by state radiation programs.

Specific Provisions

Title of Part B

The title has been changed to reflect the inclusion of associated healthcare professions in Part B.

Section B.1 – Purpose and Scope

This section was updated for the inclusion of associated healthcare professions.

Section B.3- Prohibitions

This new section was added to include language to prohibit use of unregistered or unlicensed services.

Section B.4 – Exemptions

This was previously Section B.3. Additional language was added to clarify radiation machines in transit or storage in the new Section B.4b.
B.4c. was updated to include video display terminals.
Section B.4d. and e. were added to include clarification on inoperable radiation machines and on financial institutions taking possession of radiation machines, respectively.

Section B.5 – Shielding Plan Review.

This was previously Section B.4. Health physics and medical physics services were added since they are an essential component of assurance in radiation protection.

Section B.6 – Registration [Licensure] of Radiation Machine Facilities.

This was previously Section B.5. This section was updated by adding the designation of a radiation safety officer and a practitioner on the registration or licensure application. The identification of these professionals and their qualifications has an impact on health and safety in radiation facilities.

Section B.7 – Registration [Licensure] of Mobile Service Operations.

This is a new section reflecting requirements for mobile service operations. This is included to place focus on the fact that mobile service operations must meet certain requirements in order to ensure appropriate assessment of services rendered. Mobile service operations today routinely cross over state borders. Components of mobile service operations can also be in different jurisdictions.

Section B.8 – Registration [Licensure] of Healing Arts Screening and Medical Research.

This is a new section reflecting requirements for healing arts screening and medical research. This has become increasingly important with the utilization of CTs for today's screening programs (e.g., lung cancer screening and whole body screening for cardiac pathology).

Section B.9 – Registration [Licensure] of Servicing and Services.

This was previously Section B.6. Section B.9c.v. was deleted since the information is not necessary on the application. Section B.9d.v. was added to include provider of the equipment.

Section B.10 – Issuance of Notice of Registration [Licensure]

This was previously Section B.7.

Section B.11 – Expiration of Notice of Registration [Licensure].

This was previously Section B.8.

Section B.12 – Renewal of Notice of Registration [Licensure].

This was previously Section B.9.

Section B.13 – Report of Changes.

This was previously Section B.10.

Section B.14 – Approval Not Implied.

This was previously Section B.11.

Section B.15 – Assembler and/or Transfer Obligation.

This was previously Section B.12.

Section B.16 – Reciprocal Recognition of Out-of-State Radiation Machines.

This was previously Section B.13.

Section B.17 – Qualification of Health Physicists and Medical Physicists for Registration [Licensure].

This is a new section in Part B recognizing and specifying the qualifications of health physicists and medical physicists. It is included to ensure that credentialing is specified in the physicist profession in the interest of health and safety for patients, providers, and the general public.

Section B.18 – Qualification of Radiologic Technologists and Nuclear Medicine Technologists.

This is a new section in Part B recognizing and specifying the qualifications of radiologic technologists and nuclear medicine technologists. It is included to ensure that educated and trained allied health professionals are performing their roles in various modalities in diagnostic imaging to include fusion imaging.

Section B.19 – Qualification of Dental Assistants, Dental Hygienists, Veterinary Assistants, and Chiropractic Assistants.

This is a new section in Part B recognizing and specifying the qualifications for dental assistants, dental hygienists, veterinary assistants, and chiropractic assistants. It is included to identify allied health professionals who have a role in the operation and safe utilization of radiation sources.

Appendix C – Radiation Safety Officer (RSO) Requirements

This is a new optional appendix specifying requirements for RSOs. It is included to place focus on the importance of having a knowledgeable person making appropriate decisions in the interest of health and safety of patients, providers, and the general public.

Appendix D – Responsibilities of Radiation Safety Officers (RSO)

This is a new optional appendix specifying the responsibilities of RSOs. This is included to ensure that an RSO recognizes and understands the scope of the area of responsibility when serving as an RSO.

Appendix E – Minimum Education and Training for Persons Performing Radiation Machine Assembly, Installation or Repair

This is a new optional appendix specifying the requisite education and training of persons performing radiation machine assembly, installation or repair. It is included to place focus on the importance of utilizing persons who are specifically trained on these activities. Untrained persons can increase the potential for inappropriate actions which may have consequences on the health and safety of patients, providers, and the general public.