Computed Tomography: State & Federal Requirements

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Why state regulations matter

• Universal application

• Baseline safety requirements

• Carry the force of law
Why state regulations matter

Inadequate shielding exposed workers to excess radiation at imaging center, lawsuits allege

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BY

Five lawsuits filed in County on Monday allege that X-ray and radiologic technologists, including two who were pregnant, were exposed to excess radiation for several years at because some walls in and around a radiology imaging center in the new emergency department were built without the required lead shielding, elevating the workers’ risk of health problems, including cancer.

'says it will
'vigorously' refute allegations

Note: This story was last updated at 3:38 p.m.
Key criteria in a given state

1. Operator Credentials

2. Physicist Credentials

3. Equipment registration and facility shielding

4. Quality control and equipment testing
Physicist Credentials

Source: AAPM.org
States Requiring Registration

[Map showing states with individual registration and group registration]
Physicist Education Requirements

• Common Terms
  – Diagnostic Imaging Specialist (IL)
  – Certified Radiation Expert (OH)
  – Registered Service Vendor (AR)
  – Radiation Service Provider (IA)
  – Qualified Expert (MO)
  – Qualified Medical Physicist – CT (NJ)
  – X Ray Service Provider (SC)
Annual Survey
Federal Facilities

Army

Navy

Air Force

VHA
Federal Facilities

• First stop: Federal Guidance Report No. 14
Federal Facilities

Army
- TB Med 521

Navy
- NMCPHC TM-6470.1

Air Force
- AFI 48-148

VHA
- VHA Directive 1129
VHA Directive 1129

• “VA Medical Facility Directors [are responsible for]… establishing and implementing QA programs for machine sources of ionizing radiation consistent with TJC standards, with annual reviews by a QMP.”
Know when your state revises regs

• MN, OH, WI, and MO have all revised their regulatory documents governing CT in the last 2 years.

• *Suggested State Regulations for Control of Radiation, Part F, Diagnostic X-Rays and Imaging Systems in the Healing Arts (CRCPD)*
Questions?

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