





## SMRT and MR SAFETY

Vera Kimbrell-Chair SMRT Safety Committee  
BSRT, R. MR. FSMRT




- Professional society roles in your career
  - Knowledge
  - Growth
  - Support
  - Professional Friendships



### WHY JOIN? WHY STAY?

- COME FOR THE EDUCATION!
- STAY FOR THE COMMUNITY
- MRI IS NOT JUST A JOB-IT'S A PROFESSION THAT RAPIDLY BECOMES A WAY OF LIFE
- SO MUCH TO LEARN-SO LITTLE TIME!

The mission of the SMRT is to advance global education in the field of magnetic resonance.

Vision Statement:  
The Society for MR Radiographers & Technologists (SMRT) strives to be the leading resource for the global MR radiographer and technologist community.





### SMRT HISTORY




- Founded 1990 in Washington DC
- After several iterations in name and society mergers, the **Society of Magnetic Resonance Radiographers and Technologist (SMRT)** emerged as a section of the International Society of Magnetic Resonance in Medicine (ISMRM)




## Safety

- SMRT Safety committee-Created 2011
  - MR Safety Standards
    - Consult with FDA and Joint Working Group to provide end user prospective
  - Education
    - Provide MR safety education directed to MR technologist needs
      - Level 1 and Level 2 per JC/ACR
      - Safety resource library
      - Posters, video, and webinars
  - Social Media
    - Links to information
    - Forums to communicate and learn

**Safety Standards**

- **FDA**- Advisory role for review of device labeling or other MR safety issues-ASTM
- **JOINT WORKING GROUP** -Invited at the discretion of the groups conveners to participate in labeling discussions
  - -End User Manuals
- **IMPLANT VENDOR CONSULTING**- Individual companies seek advice from end users (technologists/radiologists) for design of implant conditional documentation

SMRT A WORLD OF KNOWLEDGE FOR MR IN RADIOLOGIC PROFESSIONALS

**Education**

- The main focus and role of the SMRT is educating MR technologists and radiographers. In that vein we have a wide portfolio of activities
  - Live meeting
  - Webinars and recorded conferences
  - Abstracts, papers and video educational offerings
  - Webpage dedicated to MR safety events, resources and information
    - <https://www.ismrm.org/mr-safety-links/>

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**NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES**

- Social media
  - Slack for questions, comments and sharing information
  - Facebook for posting pictures and advertising events
  - Networking opportunities for technologists to share information and make connections
  - List-serve

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**MR PHYSICS and the Technologist/Radiographer**

- We need the interactions, advice and collaboration of our friends and colleagues in the MR Physics community
  - Lectures for our meetings and webinars
  - Assist in abstracts, educational material and posters
  - Provide support in our endeavors to educate our workplaces and the MR community
    - Level 1 and 2 safety training
    - Ad-hoc advice with implant labels

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**PHYSICS and the MR Technologist**

- The anchor of our safety "triad"
  - As technologists in the trenches of MR safety issues, we need physicist support to make good decisions and understand complicated implant conditions and indications.
- Risk/benefit decisions
  - Some clinical cases suffer from the lack of established safety guidelines but still need to move forward
    - Legacy pacemakers, unknown or unsafe metallic objects or devices

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**SMRT MR Technologist and Radiographers**

- As a society, we represent the interests of radiographers/technologists and their educational requirements.
- As MR technologists/radiographers we take MR safety as our first and most important job. Protecting our patients, visitors and staff members from accidental harm.

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The future is bright

- We are on a rapid trajectory toward more complicated devices and safety decisions
  - Focused Ultrasound
  - MR/PET
  - MR & Radiation Oncology
    - Linac and Simulators
  - Low field niche scanners
  - 7T and higher field scanners
  - Implants galore!
- We've lots of work to do together!



REFERENCES

- Career Comparison: MRI Technologist vs. Sonographer. (2016, April 11). Retrieved from <https://www.aimseducation.edu/blog/career-comparison-mri-technologist-vs-sonographer/>
- ISMRM/SMRT webpage
  - ISMRM & SMRT MR Safety Resources. (n.d.). Retrieved from <https://www.ismrm.org/mr-safety-links/>