

MARYLAND BOARD OF PHYSICIANS

Radiation Therapy, Radiography, Nuclear Medicine Technology
and Radiologist Assistance Advisory Committee

4201 Patterson Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland Room 100
Wednesday, November 17, 2021
MBP Board Room, Room 100
4:00 p.m. via Zoom

OPEN MEETING MINUTES

PRESENT

VIA

ZOOM: Geoffrey Neuner, M.D., Chair, Sabir M. Taj, M.D, Kamau J. Nkenge, RRA, RT(R), Jason K. Lee, RRA(RT)(R)(CT), Aaron T. Scott, MIS, CNMT, NMAA, FSNMMI-TS, Theresa Lewis, Consumer Member

STAFF Felicia Wright, Allied Health Supervisor, Noreen Rubin, Esq.,
PRESENT: Board Counsel, Matthew Dudzic, Health Policy Analyst, Dierdra Rufus, Senior Allied Health Analyst, Margaret Jury, Allied Health Analyst, Christa Sutton, Allied Health Analyst Associate

ABSENT:

Ellen Douglas Smith, Deputy Director, Sandi Van Horn, Health Policy Analyst, Philipose G. Mulugeta, M.D., Ruth Bell, MBA, R.T.(T),

CALL TO ORDER

Dr. Neuner called the meeting to order at 4:07 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion made by Dr. Taj and seconded by Ms. Lewis, the Committee unanimously approved the September 15, 2021 Open and Closed Meeting minutes.

LEGISLATION, REGULATIONS AND POLICY UPDATES

In the absence of Ms. Van Horn, Mr. Matthew Dudzic, Health Policy Analyst and Ms. Noreen Rubin, Esq., Counsel to the Rad Tech Committee, provided the following information related to the Board's regulation of and proposed regulations for Registered Cardiovascular Invasive Specialists (RCIS).

Background: In 2018, a bill was introduced in the General Assembly to establish a new licensure category of cardiovascular invasive specialists under the Board. In opposing the legislation because of concerns about the necessary education and training required, the Board urged the legislature to direct an interim workgroup to study these issues. Following the 2018 session, the Board established a 14-member workgroup to conduct an evaluation of CIS for potential licensure, the workgroup met and prepared a report, the report was submitted to the legislature in October 2018, and recommended an exception to licensure in Maryland under certain narrow circumstances. An amendment to Section 14-306(f) of the Health Occupations

Article became effective on October 1, 2019, which authorized the Board to adopt regulations permitting the delegation of duties by a licensed physician to an RCIS assisting in the physician's performance of fluoroscopy in a hospital cardiac catheterization laboratory. The proposed RCIS regulations were published in the September 10, 2021 Maryland Register, and would amend existing Board regulations as authorized by Section 14-306(f). That provision created an exception to licensure for a registered cardiovascular invasive specialist and permitted a licensed physician to delegate duties to an RCIS assisting in the physician's performance of fluoroscopy in a cardiac catheterization laboratory. In general, the requirements include: the physician's physical presence in the lab to personally direct each act performed by the RCIS; specific training and education of the RCIS; verification and documentation by the hospital that the RCIS has completed the training and education and has the experience required under the Board's regulations; and the hospital and delegating physician's acceptance of responsibility for ensuring compliance with the requirements for each procedure. The Board may impose a civil penalty of up to \$5,000 for a hospital's failure to comply with the requirements.

COMAR 10.32.12 – Delegation of Acts by a Licensed Physician to an Assistant Not

Otherwise Authorized under the Health Occupations Article

To summarize the proposed regulations, they specify that:

The performance of fluoroscopy means the energizing of a fluoroscopic x-ray system by an individual authorized in accordance with MDE regulations;

An RCIS is authorized to perform technical acts to assist the delegating physician in the physician's performance of fluoroscopy;

The RCIS may not perform fluoroscopy;

The RCIS must have an active RCIS certification issued by Cardiovascular Credentialing

International or another credentialing body approved by the Board;

In addition to active RCIS certification, RCIS Education requirements include:

completion of 40 hours of accredited didactic education in fluoroscopic physics and
fluoroscopic patient safety and clinical fluoroscopic training supervised by a radiologist,
radiographer, or radiologic assistant who is physically present in the room with the RCIS to
instruct the clinical fluoroscopic training;

Compliance with any additional requirements established by the Maryland Dept. of the
Environment (MDE), Joint Commission, and federal and state laws and regulations.
Delegating Physician responsibilities include:

Exercising direct supervision of the RCIS when the RCIS is assisting the physician;

Delegating only technical acts involved in the physician's performance of fluoroscopy;

Verbally directing each technical act performed by the RCIS.

RCIS responsibilities include:

Not performing fluoroscopy

Performing the technical acts to assist the delegating physician's performance of
fluoroscopy only upon verbal direction from the delegating physician;

Not delegating any act to another individual;

Hospital responsibilities include:

Verifying that the RCIS has met the educational requirements;

Keeping on-site all documentation of the RCIS' certification and additional training
required;

Permitting the Board to inspect the hospitals said documentation;

Complying with any additional requirements established by MDE, the Joint Commission,
and federal and state laws and regulations regarding radiation machines and fluoroscopy

services.

BOARD COUNSEL REPORT

Nothing to Report

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion made by Mr. Lee and seconded by Mr. Nkenge, the Committee unanimously voted to adjourn its meeting at 4:40 p.m.

Submitted by:


Dierdra Rufus
Senior Allied Health Analyst