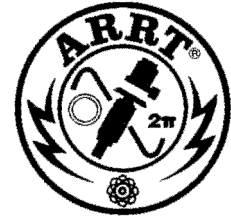

MAGNETIC RESONANCE IMAGING CLINICAL EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENTS



*Eligibility Requirements Effective for Examinations Beginning January 2003**

All candidates for the certification in Magnetic Resonance Imaging are required to perform certain clinical procedures to establish eligibility for certification. This document identifies the minimum core clinical experience requirements for certification. The ARRT encourages individuals to obtain education and experience beyond these minimum requirements.

Directions

1. **Perform the Procedures:** Candidates are required to perform a minimum total of 120 repetitions for the clinical procedures selected from page 4 of this document. Repetitions must be performed within the 24 month period immediately before submitting the application for certification. Repetitions may be completed in less than 24 months.
2. **Document Performance:** Candidates must use the attached *Clinical Experience Documentation Form* to record the performance of each repetition of the procedures. The procedures should be organized according to the categories on page 4 and the same procedures should be grouped together (e.g., all repetitions of "Orbit" should be listed together under "Head and Neck"). The documentation must include: name of procedure, date performed, time of day completed, facility where performed, and the initials of person verifying performance. The "Verified By" column on the form must be initialed by a Registered Technologist or a licensed physician. The name and address corresponding to each set of initials must also be provided on the form.
3. **Apply for Certification:** When applying for certification, candidates must complete the *verification section* of the application to attest to the completion of the experience requirements. Mail only the application for certification to the ARRT; do not send the *Clinical Experience Documentation Form* to ARRT with the application. Submitting false documentation to ARRT as part of the application process is a violation of the ARRT Standards of Ethics and may result in sanctions up to and including revocation.
4. **Maintain Your Records:** Candidates must keep the *Clinical Experience Documentation Form* for at least 24 months after the application for certification is submitted. The ARRT conducts **audits** of some applications for certification. Candidates who are audited will be required to send the *Clinical Experience Documentation Form* to ARRT. Additional documentation may be required from individuals who are audited.

* *These clinical experience requirements are to be used for applications submitted after January 1, 2003. The ARRT periodically updates the clinical experience requirements, and future requirements may be different from those specified in this document. Candidates are responsible for meeting the requirements in force at the time of application.*

Clinical Experience Requirements

Specific Procedural Requirements

The Clinical Experience Requirements for MRI consist of 53 procedures in 7 different categories. The 7 categories include:

- A. Head and Neck
- B. Spine
- C. Thorax
- D. Abdomen and Pelvis
- E. Musculoskeletal
- F. Special Imaging Procedures
- G. Quality Control

Candidates must complete and document the performance of a subset of these 53 procedures according to the following rules:

1. Choose a minimum of 5 categories.
2. Choose a minimum of 4 different procedures from the selected categories.
3. Complete a minimum of 3 and a maximum of 10 repetitions on any chosen procedure.
4. Complete a minimum total of 120 repetitions across all procedures.

Examples

A candidate who works in a specialized setting wanted to complete the minimum number of procedures. This person chose 4 procedures from each of 5 categories, for a total of 20 different procedures. To complete 120 repetitions, each of the 20 procedures were performed an average of 6 times each. Although a few of the procedures were performed only 3 times (the minimum), several others were completed 10 times (the maximum). This candidate satisfied all 4 rules.

Another candidate works in a facility that does most types of MRI scans, so completing a wide variety of procedures was quite feasible. This candidate completed a total of 30 procedures from all 7 categories. Although most of these procedures were performed 3 times (the minimum), several of them were performed 4, 5, or 6 times each until the candidate reached 120 procedures. This candidate satisfied all 4 rules.

General Guidelines

When performing the MRI procedures listed on page 4, the candidate must demonstrate appropriate:

- evaluation of requisition and/or medical record
- identification of patient
- documentation of patient history including allergies
- safety screening and patient education concerning the procedure
- patient care and assessment
- preparation of examination room
- select optimal imaging coil
- patient positioning
- protocol selection
- parameter selection
- image display, filming, and archiving
- documentation of procedure and patient data in appropriate records
- patient discharge with post-procedure instructions
- universal precautions
- MRI safety procedures and precautions

and evaluate the resulting images for:

- image quality
- optimal demonstration of anatomic region
- proper identification on images and patient data
- exam completeness

Magnetic Resonance Imaging Clinical Experience Requirement Procedures

A. Head and Neck

1. routine brain
2. internal auditory canal
3. orbit
4. pituitary
5. vascular head
6. cranial nerves
7. posterior fossa
8. head trauma
9. sinuses
10. soft tissue neck
11. vascular neck

B. Spine

1. thoracic
2. lumbar
3. cervical
4. sacrum / coccyx
5. spinal trauma
6. bony pelvis

C. Thorax

1. brachial plexus
2. mediastinum
3. cardiovascular
4. breast
5. aorta
6. heart and great vessels

D. Abdomen and Pelvis

1. liver / spleen / pancreas*
2. kidneys
3. adrenals
4. MRCP
5. vascular
6. male pelvis
7. female pelvis

E. Musculoskeletal

1. elbow
2. wrist / hand
3. hip
4. ankle
5. shoulder
6. foot
7. long bones
8. knee

F. Special Imaging Procedures

1. MRV
2. 3-D volume reformation
3. multiplanar reformation
4. diffusion
5. echo planar imaging
6. CINE
7. vascular (iliac, runoff)
8. spectroscopy
9. other (e.g. functional MRI)

G. Quality Control

1. signal to noise
2. center frequency
3. film quality control (processor sensitometry, SMPTE pattern)
4. transmitter gain or attenuation
5. geometric accuracy
6. equipment inspection (e.g., coils, cables, door seals)

* Note – A study on any of these structures (liver or spleen or pancreas) counts as one repetition of the procedure.

