The Practice Standards for Medical Imaging and Radiation Therapy

Quality Management Practice Standards
Preface to Practice Standards

A profession’s practice standards serve as a guide for appropriate practice. The practice standards define the practice and establish general criteria to determine compliance. Practice standards are authoritative statements established by the profession for evaluating the quality of practice, service and education provided by individuals who practice in medical imaging and radiation therapy.

Practice Standards can be used by individual facilities to develop job descriptions and practice parameters. Those outside the imaging, therapeutic and radiation science community can use the standards as an overview of the role and responsibilities of the individual as defined by the profession.

The individual must be educationally prepared and clinically competent as a prerequisite to professional practice. Federal and state laws, accreditation standards necessary to participate in government programs, and lawful institutional policies and procedures supersede these standards.

Format

The Practice Standards are divided into six sections: introduction, scope of practice, clinical performance, quality performance, professional performance and advisory opinion statements.

Introduction. The introduction provides definitions for the practice and the minimum qualifications for the education and certification of individuals in addition to an overview of the specific practice.

Scope of Practice. The scope of practice delineates the parameters of the specific practice.

Clinical Performance Standards. The clinical performance standards define the activities of the individual responsible for the care of patients and delivery of diagnostic or therapeutic procedures. The section incorporates patient assessment and management with procedural analysis, performance and evaluation.

Quality Performance Standards. The quality performance standards define the activities of the individual in the technical areas of performance, such as equipment and material assessment safety standards and total quality management.

Professional Performance Standards. The professional performance standards define the activities of the individual in the areas of education, interpersonal relationships, self-assessment and ethical behavior.

Advisory Opinion Statements. The advisory opinions are interpretations of the standards intended for clarification and guidance of specific practice issues.
Each performance standards section is subdivided into individual standards. The standards are numbered and followed by a term or set of terms that identify the standards, such as “assessment” or “analysis/determination.” The next statement is the expected performance of the individual when performing the procedure or treatment. A rationale statement follows and explains why an individual should adhere to the particular standard of performance.

**Criteria.** Criteria are used to evaluate an individual’s performance. Each set is divided into two parts: the general criteria and the specific criteria. Both should be used when evaluating performance.

**General Criteria.** General criteria are written in a style that applies to imaging and radiation science individuals. These criteria are the same in all of the practice standards, with the exception of limited x-ray machine operators and medical dosimetry, and should be used for the appropriate area of practice.

**Specific Criteria.** Specific criteria meet the needs of the individuals in the various areas of professional performance. While many areas of performance within imaging and radiation sciences are similar, others are not. The specific criteria were drafted with these differences in mind.
Introduction to Quality Management Practice Standards

Definition

The practice of quality management is performed by health care professionals responsible for the identification, measurement, control, and improvement of the various core processes that will ultimately lead to improved medical imaging and radiation therapy department performance.

The goal of quality management is to ensure excellence in health care through the systematic collection and evaluation of data, with a primary objective of enhancing patient care.

Today’s medical imaging and radiation therapy departments involve multiple modalities, creating an interdisciplinary team. The quality management technologist is a vital member of the health care team, which includes clinicians, management, support staff, and customers.

Quality management includes but is not limited to four main components: quality planning, quality control, quality assurance and quality improvement. Quality management focuses on image/service quality and the means to achieve it. A quality management technologist combines all of these components to ensure efficient and effective patient care.

The quality management technologist must demonstrate an understanding of the various modalities, equipment performance, regulatory/accreditation requirements, performance improvement processes, change management, patient throughput, fiscal implications and the various information technologies present in the medical imaging and radiation therapy departments.

Quality management technologists must maintain a high degree of accuracy. They must possess, use and maintain knowledge about radiation protection and safety. Quality management technologists independently perform or assist the medical physicist in the completion of quality control procedures. Quality management technologists prepare, administer and document activities related to all facets of quality management in accordance with state and federal regulations or lawful institutional policy.

Quality management technologists serve as liaisons between patients, licensed practitioners and other members of the health care team. Quality management technologists must remain sensitive to the needs of patients and coworkers through good communication, assessment, monitoring and patient care skills. As members of the health care team, quality management technologists facilitate quality improvement processes and continually assess their professional performance.

Quality management technologists think critically and use independent, professional and ethical judgments in all aspects of their work. They engage in continuing education to include their area of practice to enhance patient care, radiation safety, public education, knowledge and technical competence.
Education and Certification

Only medical imaging and radiation therapy professionals who have completed the appropriate education and obtained certification(s) as outlined in these standards should perform quality management procedures.

Quality management technologists prepare for their roles on the interdisciplinary team by successfully completing a program in radiography, nuclear medicine technology or radiation therapy that is programmatically accredited or part of an institution that is regionally accredited, and by attaining appropriate primary certification from the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists or the Nuclear Medicine Technology Certification Board.

Eligibility to take the ARRT postprimary examination in quality management requires appropriate primary certification, documentation of structured education and clinical experience at the time of application. Those passing the quality management postprimary examination use the credentials R.T.(QM).

Medical imaging and radiation therapy professionals performing multiple modality hybrid imaging should be registered by certification agencies recognized by the ASRT and be educationally prepared and clinically competent in the specific modality(ies) they are responsible to perform. Medical imaging and radiation therapy professionals performing diagnostic procedures in more than one imaging modality will adhere to the individual practice standard for each.

To maintain ARRT postprimary certification, quality management technologists must complete the appropriate continuing education requirements to sustain a level of expertise and awareness of changes and advances in practice.

Overview

An interdisciplinary team of clinicians, quality management technologists and support staff plays a critical role in the delivery of health services as new modalities emerge and the need for imaging procedures increases. A comprehensive procedure list for the quality management technologist is impractical because clinical activities vary by practice needs and expertise of the quality management technologist. As quality management technologists gain more experience, knowledge and clinical competence, the activities for the quality management technologist may evolve.

State statute, regulation or lawful community custom may dictate practice parameters. Wherever there is a conflict between these standards and state or local statutes or regulations, the state or local statutes or regulations supersede these standards. A quality management technologist should, within the boundaries of all applicable legal requirements and restrictions, exercise individual thought, judgment and discretion in the performance of the quality management procedures.
Quality Management Technologist Scope of Practice

The scope of practice of the medical imaging and radiation therapy professional includes:

- Providing optimal patient care.
- Receiving, relaying and documenting verbal, written and electronic orders in the patient’s medical record.
- Corroborating a patient's clinical history with procedure and ensuring information is documented and available for use by a licensed practitioner.
- Verifying informed consent for applicable procedures.
- Assuming responsibility for patient needs during procedures.
- Preparing patients for procedures.
- Applying principles of ALARA to minimize exposure to patient, self and others.
- Performing venipuncture as prescribed by a licensed practitioner.
- Starting, maintaining and/or removing intravenous access as prescribed by a licensed practitioner.
- Identifying, preparing and/or administering medications as prescribed by a licensed practitioner.
- Evaluating images for technical quality, ensuring proper identification is recorded.
- Identifying and responding to emergency situations.
- Providing education.
- Educating and monitoring students and other health care providers.
- Performing ongoing quality assurance activities.
- Applying the principles of patient safety during all aspects of patient care.

The scope of practice of the quality management technologist also includes:

1. Coordinating, performing and monitoring quality control procedures for all types of equipment.
2. Determining and monitoring exposure factors and/or procedural protocols in accordance with ALARA principles and age-specific considerations.

3. Ensuring adherence to federal, state and local regulatory requirements.

4. Ensuring adherence to accreditation requirements.

5. Providing input for equipment and software purchase and supply decisions when appropriate or requested.


7. Providing practical information regarding quality management topics.

8. Facilitating the department’s quality assessment and improvement plan.

9. Facilitating change through appropriate management processes.

10. Performing physics surveys independently on general radiographic and fluoroscopic equipment. Medical physicist oversight is required.

11. Supporting and assisting a medical physicist with modality physics surveys.

12. Providing assistance to staff for image optimization, including patient positioning, proper equipment use and image critique.

13. Creating policies and procedures to meet regulatory, accreditation and fiscal requirements.

14. Serving as a resource regarding regulatory, accreditation and fiscal requirements.
Quality Management Clinical Performance Standards

Standard One – Assessment

The quality management technologist collects pertinent data about the patient and the procedure.

Rationale
Information about the patient’s health status is essential in providing appropriate imaging and therapeutic services.

General Stipulation
The individual must be educationally prepared and clinically competent as a prerequisite to professional practice. Federal and state laws, accreditation standards necessary to participate in government programs, and lawful institutional policies and procedures supersede these standards.

General Criteria
The quality management technologist:
1. Obtains relevant information from all available resources and the release of information as needed.
2. Verifies patient identification and the procedure requested or prescribed.
3. Verifies that the patient has consented to the procedure.
4. Reviews all available patient medical record information to verify the appropriateness of the procedure requested or prescribed.
5. Verifies the patient’s pregnancy status.
6. Assesses factors that may negatively affect the procedure, such as medications, patient history, insufficient patient preparation or artifact producing objects.
7. Recognizes signs and symptoms of an emergency.

Specific Criteria
The quality management technologist:
1. Identifies the customers served by medical imaging and radiation therapy.
2. Identifies the processes used in customer service.
3. Monitors compliance with universal precautions and standard precautions.
Quality Management Clinical Performance Standards

Standard Two – Analysis/Determination

The quality management technologist analyzes the information obtained during the assessment phase and develops an action plan for completing the procedure.

Rationale
Determining the most appropriate action plan enhances patient safety and comfort, optimizes diagnostic and therapeutic quality and improves efficiency.

General Stipulation
The individual must be educationally prepared and clinically competent as a prerequisite to professional practice. Federal and state laws, accreditation standards necessary to participate in government programs, and lawful institutional policies and procedures supersede these standards.

General Criteria
The quality management technologist:

1. Selects the most appropriate and efficient action plan after reviewing all pertinent data and assessing the patient’s abilities and condition.

2. Employs professional judgment to adapt imaging and therapeutic procedures to improve diagnostic quality and therapeutic outcomes.

3. Consults appropriate medical personnel to determine a modified action plan.

4. Determines the need for and selects supplies, accessory equipment, shielding, and positioning and immobilization devices.

5. Determines the course of action for an emergent situation.

6. Determines that all procedural requirements are in place to achieve a quality diagnostic or therapeutic procedure.

Specific Criteria
The quality management technologist:

1. Assesses and prioritizes the current processes to improve quality while focusing on issues needing immediate response.

2. Creates an effective action plan after reviewing all pertinent data while assessing possible options, fiscal impact and ease of implementation.

3. Clarifies current steps in a process to minimize redundancy, reordering and improving service flow.

5. Develops monitoring metrics.

6. Assesses proposed changes to minimize organizational disruption during implementation.
Quality Management Clinical Performance Standards

Standard Three – Education

The quality management technologist provides information about the procedure and related health issues according to protocol.

Rationale
Communication and education are necessary to establish a positive relationship.

General Stipulation
The individual must be educationally prepared and clinically competent as a prerequisite to professional practice. Federal and state laws, accreditation standards necessary to participate in government programs, and lawful institutional policies and procedures supersede these standards.

General Criteria
The quality management technologist:

1. Provides an accurate explanation and instructions at an appropriate time and at a level the patient and their care providers can understand. Addresses questions and concerns regarding the procedure.

2. Refers questions about diagnosis, treatment or prognosis to a licensed practitioner.

3. Provides patient education.

4. Explains effects and potential side effects of medications.

Specific Criteria
The quality management technologist:

1. Develops and provides educational resources.
Quality Management Clinical Performance Standards

Standard Four – Performance

The quality management technologist performs the action plan.

Rationale
Quality patient services are provided through the safe and accurate performance of a deliberate plan of action.

General Stipulation
The individual must be educationally prepared and clinically competent as a prerequisite to professional practice. Federal and state laws, accreditation standards necessary to participate in government programs, and lawful institutional policies and procedures supersede these standards.

General Criteria
The quality management technologist:
1. Performs procedural timeout.
2. Implements an action plan.
3. Explains to the patient each step of the action plan as it occurs and elicits the cooperation of the patient.
4. Uses an integrated team approach.
5. Modifies the action plan according to changes in the clinical situation.
6. Administers first aid or provides life support.
7. Uses accessory equipment.
8. Assesses and monitors the patient’s physical, emotional and mental status.
9. Applies principles of sterile technique.
10. Positions patient for anatomic area of interest, respecting patient ability and comfort.
11. Immobilizes patient for procedure.
12. Monitors the patient for reactions to medications.

Specific Criteria
The quality management technologist:
1. Collects and analyzes data using the standard tools associated with quality management.
2. Assesses process flow.

3. Investigates sentinel events and continuously monitors measurements to minimize risk.
Quality Management Clinical Performance Standards

Standard Five – Evaluation

The quality management technologist determines whether the goals of the action plan have been achieved.

Rationale
Careful examination of the procedure is important to determine that expected outcomes have been met.

General Stipulation
The individual must be educationally prepared and clinically competent as a prerequisite to professional practice. Federal and state laws, accreditation standards necessary to participate in government programs, and lawful institutional policies and procedures supersede these standards.

General Criteria
The quality management technologist:

1. Evaluates the patient and the procedure to identify variances that might affect the expected outcome.
2. Completes the evaluation process in a timely, accurate and comprehensive manner.
3. Measures the procedure against established policies, protocols and benchmarks.
4. Identifies exceptions to the expected outcome.
5. Develops a revised action plan to achieve the intended outcome.
6. Communicates the revised action plan to appropriate team members.

Specific Criteria
The quality management technologist:

1. Evaluates sentinel events to minimize risk.
2. Evaluates measured processes against established policies, protocols, guidelines and benchmarks.
3. Confirms data is accurate and complete.
Quality Management Clinical Performance Standards

Standard Six – Implementation

The quality management technologist implements the revised action plan.

Rationale
It may be necessary to make changes to the action plan to achieve the expected outcome.

General Stipulation
The individual must be educationally prepared and clinically competent as a prerequisite to professional practice. Federal and state laws, accreditation standards necessary to participate in government programs, and lawful institutional policies and procedures supersede these standards.

General Criteria
The quality management technologist:

1. Bases the revised plan on the patient’s condition and the most appropriate means of achieving the expected outcome.

2. Takes action based on patient and procedural variances.

3. Measures and evaluates the results of the revised action plan.

4. Notifies the appropriate health care provider when immediate clinical response is necessary, based on procedural findings and patient condition.

Specific Criteria
The quality management technologist:

1. Develops policies, protocols and guidelines in collaboration with other health care providers.
Quality Management Clinical Performance Standards

Standard Seven – Outcomes Measurement

The quality management technologist reviews and evaluates the outcome of the procedure.

Rationale
To evaluate the quality of care, the quality management technologist compares the actual outcome with the expected outcome.

General Stipulation
The individual must be educationally prepared and clinically competent as a prerequisite to professional practice. Federal and state laws, accreditation standards necessary to participate in government programs, and lawful institutional policies and procedures supersede these standards.

General Criteria
The quality management technologist:
1. Reviews all diagnostic or therapeutic data for completeness and accuracy.
2. Uses evidence-based practice to determine whether the actual outcome is within established criteria.
3. Evaluates the process and recognizes opportunities for future changes.
4. Assesses the patient’s physical, emotional and mental status prior to discharge.

Specific Criteria
The quality management technologist:
1. Evaluates the effectiveness of and supports changes to processes.
2. Performs procedural analysis.
Quality Management Clinical Performance Standards

Standard Eight – Documentation

The quality management technologist documents information about patient care, the procedure and the final outcome.

Rationale
Clear and precise documentation is essential for continuity of care, accuracy of care and quality assurance.

General Stipulation
The individual must be educationally prepared and clinically competent as a prerequisite to professional practice. Federal and state laws, accreditation standards necessary to participate in government programs, and lawful institutional policies and procedures supersede these standards.

General Criteria
The quality management technologist:
1. Documents diagnostic, treatment and patient data in the medical record in a timely, accurate and comprehensive manner.
2. Documents unintended outcomes or exceptions from the established criteria.
3. Provides pertinent information to authorized individual(s) involved in the patient’s care.
4. Records information used for billing and coding procedures.
5. Archives images or data.
6. Verifies patient consent is documented.
7. Documents procedural timeout.

Specific Criteria
The quality management technologist:
1. Documents steps used to improve processes.
2. Documents goals and outcomes based on data analysis.
3. Provides reports as required by institutional policy, accrediting bodies and state and federal regulations.
Quality Management Quality Performance Standards

Standard One – Assessment

The quality management technologist collects pertinent information regarding equipment, procedures and the work environment.

Rationale
The planning and provision of safe and effective medical services relies on the collection of pertinent information about equipment, procedures and the work environment.

General Stipulation
The individual must be educationally prepared and clinically competent as a prerequisite to professional practice. Federal and state laws, accreditation standards necessary to participate in government programs, and lawful institutional policies and procedures supersede these standards.

General Criteria
The quality management technologist:
1. Determines that services are performed in a safe environment, minimizing potential hazards.
2. Confirms that equipment performance, maintenance and operation comply with the manufacturer’s specifications.
3. Verifies that protocol and procedure manuals include recommended criteria and are reviewed and revised.

Specific Criteria
The quality management technologist:
1. Uses consistent and appropriate techniques to gather relevant information.
2. Assesses policies, protocols and guidelines to improve safety, efficiency, and patient care, and identify the potential impact to the facility.
Quality Management Quality Performance Standards

Standard Two – Analysis/Determination

The quality management technologist analyzes information collected during the assessment phase to determine the need for changes to equipment, procedures or the work environment.

Rationale
Determination of acceptable performance is necessary to provide safe and effective services.

General Stipulation
The individual must be educationally prepared and clinically competent as a prerequisite to professional practice. Federal and state laws, accreditation standards necessary to participate in government programs, and lawful institutional policies and procedures supersede these standards.

General Criteria
The quality management technologist:
1. Evaluates services, procedures and the environment to determine if they meet or exceed established guidelines, and revises the action plan.
2. Monitors equipment to meet or exceed established standards and revises the action plan.
3. Assesses and maintains the integrity of medical supplies.

Specific Criteria
The quality management technologist:
1. Monitors and develops methods to improve customer satisfaction.
2. Monitors federal and state laws and accreditation standards that affect quality management in medical imaging and radiation therapy.
3. Establishes benchmarks and quality indicators to assess quality management issues.
Quality Management Quality Performance Standards

Standard Three – Education

The quality management technologist informs the patient, public and other health care providers about procedures, equipment and facilities.

Rationale
Open communication promotes safe practices.

General Stipulation
The individual must be educationally prepared and clinically competent as a prerequisite to professional practice. Federal and state laws, accreditation standards necessary to participate in government programs, and lawful institutional policies and procedures supersede these standards.

General Criteria
The quality management technologist:
1. Elicits confidence and cooperation from the patient, the public and other health care providers by providing timely communication and effective instruction.
2. Presents explanations and instructions at the learner’s level of understanding.
3. Educates the patient, public and other health care providers about procedures and the associated biological effects.
4. Provides information to patients, health care providers, students and the public concerning the role and responsibilities of individuals in the profession.

Specific Criteria
The quality management technologist:
1. Addresses questions and concerns regarding quality management.
2. Develops and provides educational resources to improve the understanding of quality management in medical imaging and radiation therapy.
Quality Management Quality Performance Standards

Standard Four – Performance

The quality management technologist performs quality assurance activities.

Rationale
Quality assurance activities provide valid and reliable information regarding the performance of equipment, materials and processes.

General Stipulation
The individual must be educationally prepared and clinically competent as a prerequisite to professional practice. Federal and state laws, accreditation standards necessary to participate in government programs, and lawful institutional policies and procedures supersede these standards.

General Criteria
The quality management technologist:
   1. Maintains current information on equipment, materials and processes.
   2. Performs ongoing quality assurance activities.
   3. Performs quality control testing of equipment.
   4. Participates in safety and risk management activities.
   5. When appropriate, wears one or more personal radiation monitoring devices at the location indicated on the personal radiation monitoring device or as indicated by the radiation safety officer or designee.

Specific Criteria
The quality management technologist:
   1. Identifies variables and implements changes to improve quality.
Quality Management Quality Performance Standards

Standard Five – Evaluation

The quality management technologist evaluates quality assurance results and establishes an appropriate action plan.

Rationale
Equipment, materials and processes depend on ongoing quality assurance activities that evaluate performance based on established guidelines.

General Stipulation
The individual must be educationally prepared and clinically competent as a prerequisite to professional practice. Federal and state laws, accreditation standards necessary to participate in government programs, and lawful institutional policies and procedures supersede these standards.

General Criteria
The quality management technologist:
1. Validates quality assurance testing conditions and results.
2. Evaluates quality assurance results.
3. Formulates an action plan.

Specific Criteria
The quality management technologist:
1. Evaluates customer satisfaction.
2. Evaluates results against established policies, protocols, guidelines and benchmarks.
Quality Management Quality Performance Standards

Standard Six – Implementation

The quality management technologist implements the quality assurance action plan for equipment, materials and processes.

Rationale
Implementation of a quality assurance action plan promotes safe and effective services.

General Stipulation
The individual must be educationally prepared and clinically competent as a prerequisite to professional practice. Federal and state laws, accreditation standards necessary to participate in government programs, and lawful institutional policies and procedures supersede these standards.

General Criteria
The quality management technologist:
1. Obtains assistance to support the quality assurance action plan.
2. Implements the quality assurance action plan.

Specific Criteria
None added.
Quality Management Quality Performance Standards

Standard Seven – Outcomes Measurement

The quality management technologist assesses the outcome of the quality management action plan for equipment, materials and processes.

Rationale
Outcomes assessment is an integral part of the ongoing quality management action plan to enhance diagnostic and therapeutic services.

General Stipulation
The individual must be educationally prepared and clinically competent as a prerequisite to professional practice. Federal and state laws, accreditation standards necessary to participate in government programs, and lawful institutional policies and procedures supersede these standards.

General Criteria
The quality management technologist:
1. Reviews the implementation process for accuracy and validity.
2. Determines that actual outcomes are within established criteria.
3. Develops and implements a revised action plan.

Specific Criteria
The quality management technologist:
1. Assesses implemented changes for improvement.
2. Assesses differences between expected and actual outcomes.
3. Revises action plan as indicated.
4. Develops strategies for maintaining improvement.
5. Develops methods to demonstrate continuous improvement.
Quality Management Quality Performance Standards

Standard Eight – Documentation

The quality management technologist documents quality assurance activities and results.

Rationale
Documentation provides evidence of quality assurance activities designed to enhance safety.

General Stipulation
The individual must be educationally prepared and clinically competent as a prerequisite to professional practice. Federal and state laws, accreditation standards necessary to participate in government programs, and lawful institutional policies and procedures supersede these standards.

General Criteria
The quality management technologist:
1. Maintains documentation of quality assurance activities, procedures and results.
2. Documents in a timely, accurate and comprehensive manner.

Specific Criteria
The quality management technologist:
1. Maintains institutional policies, protocols and guidelines by continuously evaluating compliance issues.
2. Documents process flow variances and justifies exceptions.
3. Provides reports as required.
Quality Management Professional Performance Standards

Standard One – Quality

The quality management technologist strives to provide optimal patient care.

Rationale
Patients expect and deserve optimal care during diagnosis and treatment.

General Stipulation
The individual must be educationally prepared and clinically competent as a prerequisite to professional practice. Federal and state laws, accreditation standards necessary to participate in government programs, and lawful institutional policies and procedures supersede these standards.

General Criteria
The quality management technologist:
1. Collaborates with others to elevate the quality of care.
2. Participates in ongoing quality assurance programs.
3. Adheres to standards, policies and established guidelines.
4. Applies professional judgment and discretion while performing the diagnostic study or treatment.
5. Anticipates, considers and responds to the needs of a diverse patient population.

Specific Criteria
The quality management technologist:
1. Verifies the achievement of goals and identifies exceptions.
Quality Management Professional Performance Standards

Standard Two – Self-Assessment

The quality management technologist evaluates personal performance.

Rationale
Self-assessment is necessary for personal growth and professional development.

General Stipulation
The individual must be educationally prepared and clinically competent as a prerequisite to professional practice. Federal and state laws, accreditation standards necessary to participate in government programs, and lawful institutional policies and procedures supersede these standards.

General Criteria
The quality management technologist:

1. Assesses personal work ethics, behaviors and attitudes.

2. Evaluates performance and recognizes opportunities for educational growth and improvement.

3. Recognizes and applies personal and professional strengths.

4. Participates in professional societies and organizations.

Specific Criteria
None added.
Quality Management Professional Performance Standards

Standard Three – Education

The quality management technologist acquires and maintains current knowledge in practice.

Rationale
Advancements in the profession and optimal patient care require additional knowledge and skills through education.

General Stipulation
The individual must be educationally prepared and clinically competent as a prerequisite to professional practice. Federal and state laws, accreditation standards necessary to participate in government programs, and lawful institutional policies and procedures supersede these standards.

General Criteria
The quality management technologist:
1. Maintains credentials and certification related to practice.

2. Advocates for and participates in continuing education related to area of practice, to maintain and enhance clinical competency.

3. Advocates for and participates in vendor specific applications training to maintain clinical competency.

Specific Criteria
The quality management technologist:
1. Investigates and implements practices that enhance a safe environment.

2. Uses knowledge to modify current practices.
Quality Management Professional Performance Standards

Standard Four – Collaboration and Collegiality

The quality management technologist promotes a positive and collaborative practice atmosphere with other members of the health care team.

Rationale
To provide quality patient care, all members of the health care team must communicate effectively and work together efficiently.

General Stipulation
The individual must be educationally prepared and clinically competent as a prerequisite to professional practice. Federal and state laws, accreditation standards necessary to participate in government programs, and lawful institutional policies and procedures supersede these standards.

General Criteria
The quality management technologist:
1. Shares knowledge and expertise with others.
2. Develops and maintains collaborative partnerships to enhance quality and efficiency.
3. Promotes understanding of the profession.

Specific Criteria
The quality management technologist:
1. Uses team concepts to interact with other members of the health care team and customers.
Quality Management Professional Performance Standards

Standard Five – Ethics

The quality management technologist adheres to the profession’s accepted ethical standards.

Rationale
Decisions made and actions taken on behalf of the patient are based on a sound ethical foundation.

General Stipulation
The individual must be educationally prepared and clinically competent as a prerequisite to professional practice. Federal and state laws, accreditation standards necessary to participate in government programs, and lawful institutional policies and procedures supersede these standards.

General Criteria
The quality management technologist:
1. Provides health care services with consideration for a diverse patient population.
3. Accepts accountability for decisions made and actions taken.
4. Delivers patient care and service free from bias or discrimination.
5. Respects the patient’s right to privacy and confidentiality.
6. Adheres to the established practice standards of the profession.
7. Adheres to the established ethical standards of recognized certifying agencies.

Specific Criteria
The quality management technologist:
1. Promotes and monitors adherence to radiation safety standards.
Quality Management Professional Performance Standards

Standard Six – Research and Innovation

The quality management technologist participates in the acquisition and dissemination of knowledge and the advancement of the profession.

Rationale
Scholarly activities such as research, scientific investigation, presentation and publication advance the profession.

General Stipulation
The individual must be educationally prepared and clinically competent as a prerequisite to professional practice. Federal and state laws, accreditation standards necessary to participate in government programs, and lawful institutional policies and procedures supersede these standards.

General Criteria
The quality management technologist:

1. Reads and evaluates research relevant to the profession.
2. Participates in data collection.
3. Investigates innovative methods for application in practice.
4. Shares information through publication, presentation and collaboration.
5. Adopts new best practices.

Specific Criteria
None added.
Quality Management Advisory Opinion Statements

Administering Medication in Peripherally Inserted Central Catheter Lines or Ports with a Power Injector.

Guidance for the Communication of Clinical and Imaging Observations and Procedure Details by Radiologist Assistants to Supervising Radiologists.

Medication Administration by Medical Imaging and Radiation Therapy Professionals.

Medication Administration Through Existing Vascular Access.

Placement of Personal Radiation Monitoring Devices.

Use of Post-Exposure Shuttering, Cropping and Electronic Masking in Radiography.