The Practice Standards for Medical Imaging and Radiation Therapy

Mammography 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 Mammography Practice Standards

Definition

The practice of mammography is performed by health care professionals responsible for the administration of ionizing radiation and high-frequency sound waves for diagnostic, therapeutic or research purposes. A mammography technologist performs breast imaging procedures at the request of and for the interpretation by a licensed practitioner.

Although an interdisciplinary team of clinicians, mammography technologists and support staff play a critical role in the delivery of health services, it is the mammography technologist who performs the breast imaging procedures that create mammographic and sonographic images needed for diagnosis.

Mammography integrates scientific knowledge, technical competence and patient interaction skills to provide safe and accurate procedures with compassion. A mammography technologist recognizes patient conditions essential for the successful completion of the procedure.

Mammography technologists must demonstrate an understanding of human anatomy, physiology, pathology and medical terminology. They must maintain a high degree of accuracy in positioning. Mammography technologists must possess, use and maintain knowledge about radiation protection and safety and bioeffects of high-frequency sound waves. Mammography technologists prepare, administer and document activities related to medications in accordance with state and federal regulations or lawful institutional policy.

Mammography technologists independently perform or assist the licensed practitioner in the completion of mammographic and sonographic breast imaging procedures.

Mammography technologists are the primary liaison between patients, licensed practitioners, and other members of the support team. Mammography technologists must remain sensitive to the needs of the patient through good communication, patient assessment, patient monitoring and patient care skills. As members of the health care team, mammography technologists participate in quality improvement processes and continually assess their professional performance.

Mammography technologists think critically and use independent, professional and ethical judgments in all aspects of their work. They must comprehend the complexities of the appropriate state and federal regulations and have knowledge of the quality control and quality assurance requirements for mammography and breast sonography. 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 mammography and breast sonography procedures.

Mammography technologists prepare for their roles on the interdisciplinary team by successfully completing a program in radiography 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. Initial mammography training hours may be required at the state or federal level.

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

Eligibility to take the ARRT postprimary examination in breast sonography requires appropriate primary and/or postprimary certification at the time of examination and documentation of clinical experience in specific procedures. Those passing the breast sonography examination use the credential R.T.(BS).

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, mammography 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 radiologists, mammography technologists, radiographers and other 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 mammography technologist is impractical because clinical activities vary by the practice needs and expertise of the mammography technologist. As mammography technologists gain more experience, knowledge and clinical competence, the clinical activities for the mammography 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 mammography technologist should, within the boundaries of all applicable legal requirements and restrictions, exercise individual thought, judgment and discretion in the performance of the procedure.

Mammography 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 and 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 mammography technologist also includes:

1. Performing mammographic procedures.
2. Performing breast ultrasound procedures.
3. Determining image exposure factors.

4. Imaging pathologic breast specimens.

5. Providing or assisting with physical breast inspections or palpation.

6. Assisting in maintaining medical records, respecting confidentiality and established policy.

Mammography Clinical Performance Standards

Standard One – Assessment

The mammography 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 mammography 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 mammography technologist:

1. Reviews information about previous breast imaging procedures.

2. Assesses the need for alternative procedures based on the patient's age, hormonal status and the presence of surgical implants.

3. Assesses any potential patient limitations (body habitus, physical or mental capabilities) and modifies the performance of the procedure as necessary.

Mammography Clinical Performance Standards

Standard Two – Analysis/Determination

The mammography 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 mammography 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, 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 mammography technologist:

1. Determines the need for additional projections to complete the procedure.

Mammography Clinical Performance Standards

Standard Three – Education

The mammography 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 mammography technologist:

1. Provides accurate explanations and instructions at an appropriate time and at a level the patients 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 mammography technologist:

1. Educates the patient about the risk factors for breast cancer and the benefits of early detection.

2. Educates the patient about the value and use of additional projections and alternative breast imaging procedures.

3. Educates the patient about the risks and benefits of radiation.

4. Educates the patient about the need for adequate compression to achieve a quality mammogram and instructs the patient to communicate if the compression becomes intolerable.

Mammography Clinical Performance Standards

Standard Four – Performance

The mammography 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 mammography 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 mammography technologist:

1. Applies appropriate radiopaque markers to the breast to mark nipples, scars, lumps, etc.

2. Exercises clinical judgment in the application of adequate compression to acquire a quality mammographic image.

3. Ensures correct annotation of images.

4. Performs standard projections during a screening mammogram and additional projections to ensure breast tissue is adequately imaged.

5. Performs the required or recommended projections during a diagnostic mammogram.

6. Performs breast ultrasound as prescribed.

7. Informs the patient of the right to receive a lay summary result in accordance with the Mammography Quality Standards Act of 1992 (MQSA).

8. Coordinates and manages the collection and labeling of tissue and fluid specimens.

Mammography Clinical Performance Standards

Standard Five – Evaluation

The mammography 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 mammography 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 mammography technologist:

1. Evaluates the quality of each breast imaging exam.

Mammography Clinical Performance Standards

Standard Six – Implementation

The mammography 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 mammography 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
None added.

Mammography Clinical Performance Standards

Standard Seven – Outcomes Measurement

The mammography technologist reviews and evaluates the outcome of the procedure.

Rationale
To evaluate the quality of care, the mammography 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 mammography 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
None added.

Mammography Clinical Performance Standards

Standard Eight – Documentation

The mammography 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 mammography 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 mammography technologist:

1. Documents the location of previous breast imaging procedures and obtains authorization for the release of prior studies.

Mammography Quality Performance Standards

Standard One – Assessment

The mammography 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 mammography 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 mammography technologist:

1. Establishes all required quality assurance and quality control test criteria.

2. Assists in setting policy and procedures in the facility to meet certification and accreditation standards specific to breast imaging.

3. Participates in radiation protection, patient and personnel safety, risk management, and quality management activities.

Mammography Quality Performance Standards

Standard Two – Analysis/Determination

The mammography 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 mammography 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
None added.

Mammography Quality Performance Standards

Standard Three – Education

The mammography 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 mammography 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 mammography technologist:

1. Provides information on certification or accreditation of mammography facilities to the patient, other health care providers and the general public.

2. Displays certificate(s) of compliance.

Mammography Quality Performance Standards

Standard Four – Performance

The mammography 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 mammography 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 mammography technologist:

1. Performs quality assurance and quality control tests according to established criteria.

Mammography Quality Performance Standards

Standard Five – Evaluation

The mammography 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 mammography technologist:

1. Validates quality assurance testing conditions and results.

2. Evaluates quality assurance results.

3. Formulates an action plan.

Specific Criteria
The mammography technologist:

1. Evaluates required quality control tests before breast imaging is performed.

2. Reviews the inspection and medical physicist's reports to assess the quality of the breast imaging equipment's performance.

3. Collaborates with the lead interpreting physician and medical physicist to maintain equipment and comply with state and federal regulations and guidelines.

Mammography Quality Performance Standards

Standard Six – Implementation

The mammography 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 mammography technologist:

1. Obtains assistance to support the quality assurance action plan.

2. Implements the quality assurance action plan.

Specific Criteria
The mammography technologist:

1. Initiates procedures only when breast imaging equipment meets quality assurance and quality control requirements, and results are in compliance.

2. Controls access to restricted areas during radiation exposure.

Mammography Quality Performance Standards

Standard Seven – Outcomes Measurement

The mammography 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 mammography 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 mammography technologist:

1. Prepares the annual medical outcomes audit and provides results to the lead interpreting physician.

Mammography Quality Performance Standards

Standard Eight – Documentation

The mammography 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 mammography technologist:

1. Maintains documentation of quality assurance activities, procedures and results.

2. Documents in a timely, accurate and comprehensive manner.

Specific Criteria
The mammography technologist:

1. Documents and provides evidence of quality assurance and quality control outcomes according to established guidelines.

Mammography Professional Performance Standards

Standard One – Quality

The mammography 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 mammography 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
None Added.

Mammography Professional Performance Standards

Standard Two – Self-Assessment

The mammography 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 mammography 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.

Mammography Professional Performance Standards

Standard Three – Education

The mammography 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 mammography 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 mammography technologist:

1. Maintains clinical experience according to state and federal regulations and guidelines.

Mammography Professional Performance Standards

Standard Four – Collaboration and Collegiality

The mammography 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 mammography 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
None added.

Mammography Professional Performance Standards

Standard Five – Ethics

The mammography 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 mammography technologist:

1. Provides health care services with consideration for a diverse patient population.
2. Acts as a patient advocate.
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
None added.

Mammography Professional Performance Standards

Standard Six – Research and Innovation

The mammography 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 mammography 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.

6. Pursues lifelong learning.

Specific Criteria
None added.

Mammography Advisory Opinion Statements

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

Medication Administration Through Existing Vascular Access.

Medication Administration by Medical Imaging and Radiation Therapy Professionals.

Placement of Personal Radiation Monitoring Devices.