

NON-CLINICAL MEMBERS RETURNING TO PRACTICE POLICY



POLICY NUMBER: CR004-01

DATE APPROVED: XXXX

DATE TO BE REVIEWED: XXXX

DISTRIBUTION: NSAMRT Registrants

COMMITTEE: Credentials Committee

DATE(S) REVIEWED (REVISED): XXXX

ISSUING AUTHORITY: NSAMRT Executive Council

APPROVAL: 

BACKGROUND

NSCMIRTP recognizes MIRTP practice involves the clinical and technical aspects of the profession and also includes functions of education, management, imaging research, supervision and administration. This means that MIRTPs employed in these areas are viewed as practicing the profession and should be registered with the College. The College treats the hours of practice the same regardless of whether they are accrued for clinical or non-clinical work. When MIRTPs working in these non-clinical roles wish to return to clinical practice they are expected to follow professional practice standards to ensure current clinical competency.

POLICY

NSCMIRTP regulations require that members have practiced a minimum of xxx hours in the most recent 5-year window. Council policy provides that practice involves the clinical and technical aspects of the profession and the College treats the hours of practice the same regardless of whether they are accrued for clinical or non-clinical work.

NSCMIRTP regulations provide that regulated members are required to restrict themselves to performing only those activities that they are competent to perform and that are appropriate to their area of practice and the procedures being performed. Further, a regulated member must practice in accordance with the Standards of Practice and Code of Ethics of NSCMIRTP. This means that regulated members are responsible for ensuring that they are practicing safely, competently and ethically whether their practice is clinical or non-clinical. If the MIRTP meets regulatory requirements, it is up to the MIRTP and the employer to decide if a clinical refresher is required. If current clinical competency is ever questioned it is the responsibility of the MIRTP to prove they have complied with their legislative requirements for current competent clinical practice.

For individuals that have not met the minim practice hours qualifications, a formalized refresher program is required prior to being eligible for registration as a MIRTP.

RATIONALE

This policy provides re-entry to practice guidelines for imaging technologists and radiation therapy health care professionals who have been absent from practicing in the clinical setting. The purpose of this policy is to ensure that practicing health care providers are competent in their fields in order to protect the public and uphold the standards of the profession (1).

Procedure: Where a registrant identifies the need for clinical refreshing it is up to the employer and MIRTTP to decide on requirements. The College can assist a registrant and employer by providing current expectations of clinical performance to help inform a re-entry to clinical practice. Where clinical refresher is deemed necessary it is the expectation of the College that the registrant is not practicing clinically without adequate supervision.

NSCMIRTTP reviews members' files annually to ensure clinical hour requirements are being met.

REFERENCES

Health & Care Professionals Council. (2011). *Returning to Practice*. Retrieved from http://www.hpc-uk.org/assets/documents/10001364returning_to_practice.pdf