

Louisiana State Radiologic Technology Board of Examiners
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Subject: Appeal to Permit Certified Nuclear Medicine Technologists to Perform Standalone CT Scans

Dear Members of the Board,

I am writing to respectfully request that the Louisiana State Radiologic Technology Board of Examiners offer consideration within its current policy that prohibits Nuclear Medicine Technologists (NMTs) that have completed certification in Computed Tomography (CT) by the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT), from performing standalone diagnostic CT scans.

According to the Society of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging (SNMMI), Louisiana does not permit NMTs certified in CT to perform diagnostic CT scans on hybrid PET/CT scanners unless they also hold a diagnostic radiography license.

This restriction seems to overlook the advanced training and certification that many NMTs have obtained in CT imaging. The ARRT's CT certification process ensures that technologists are proficient in CT imaging protocols, patient safety, radiation protection, and quality assurance. By not recognizing this certification for standalone CT procedures, the current policy may limit the effective utilization of qualified professionals and could impact patient care, especially in underserved areas where access to diagnostic imaging services is limited.

I urge the Board to consider the following points:

1. **Recognition of ARRT CT Certification:** Acknowledging ARRT CT certification for NMTs would align Louisiana with other states that permit certified NMTs to perform standalone CT scans on PET/CT scanners, thereby standardizing practice and ensuring quality care.
2. **Enhanced Patient Access:** Allowing certified NMTs to perform standalone CT scans can improve patient access to essential imaging services, reduce wait times, and optimize workflow efficiency in healthcare facilities.
3. **Maintaining High Standards of Care:** Certified NMTs with CT credentials have demonstrated their competence through rigorous examination and clinical experience, ensuring that patient safety and diagnostic quality are upheld.

I respectfully request that the LSRTBE reevaluate its policy to permit NMTs who have obtained ARRT CT certification to perform standalone diagnostic CT scans on PET/CT hybrid machines.

This change would reflect the evolving landscape of medical imaging and support the delivery of comprehensive, high-quality care to patients across Louisiana.

At the very least, non-contrast studies such as Calcium Scoring exams and Chest exams such as Low-Dose Lung Screenings should be allowed.

Thank you for considering this appeal. I am available to provide further information or participate in discussions to support this request.

Sincerely,

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