

A decorative graphic consisting of a thick, grey diagonal line that starts from the top left and extends towards the right. A large, semi-transparent grey sphere is positioned where the line changes direction, creating a focal point.

# The Practice Standards for Medical Imaging and Radiation Therapy

---

## Mammography Practice Standards

---

*©2012 American Society of Radiologic Technologists. All rights reserved. Reprinting all or part of this document is prohibited without advance written permission of the ASRT. Send reprint requests to the ASRT Communications Department, 15000 Central Ave. SE, Albuquerque, NM 87123-3909.*

## 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 judging 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 for Medical Imaging and Radiation Therapy 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 education and certification for 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 in 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 including 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 for 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 in evaluating an individual’s performance. Each set is divided into two parts: the general criteria and the specific criteria. Both criteria 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 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 are drafted with these differences in mind.

# Introduction to Mammography Practice Standards

## Definition

The practice of mammography is performed by a segment of 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 and related techniques, producing data at the request of and for the interpretation by a licensed independent 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 skills, patient interaction and compassionate care resulting in diagnostic information. The mammography technologist recognizes patient conditions essential for 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, utilize 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 independent practitioner in the completion of mammographic and sonographic breast imaging procedures.

Mammography technologists are the primary liaison between patients, licensed independent 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 judgment 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**

Mammography technologists prepare for their role on the interdisciplinary team by successfully completing an accredited educational program in radiography and attaining appropriate primary certification by the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists. Initial mammography training hours may be required on a state or federal level.

Eligibility to take the ARRT postprimary examination in mammography requires appropriate primary certification at the time of examination and documentation of clinical experience in specific procedures. 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).

To maintain ARRT postprimary certification, mammography technologists must complete 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 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:

- Receiving, relaying and documenting verbal, written and electronic orders in the patient's medical record.
- Corroborating patient's clinical history with procedure, ensuring information is documented and available for use by a licensed independent practitioner.
- Verifying informed consent.
- 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 independent practitioner.
- Starting and maintaining intravenous access as prescribed by a licensed independent practitioner.
- Identifying, preparing and/or administering medications as prescribed by a licensed independent practitioner.
- Evaluating images for technical quality, ensuring proper identification is recorded.
- Identifying and managing emergency situations.
- Providing education.
- Educating and monitoring students and other health care providers.
- Performing ongoing quality assurance activities.

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 inspection 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. Gathers relevant information from the patient, medical record, significant others and health care providers.
2. Reconfirms patient identification and verifies the procedure requested or prescribed.
3. Reviews the patient's medical record to verify the appropriateness of a specific examination or procedure.
4. Verifies the patient's pregnancy status.
5. Assesses factors that may contraindicate the procedure, such as medications, patient history, insufficient patient preparation or artifacts.
6. 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 when possible.



## **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 outcome.
3. Consults appropriate medical personnel to determine a modified action plan.
4. Determines the need for and selects supplies, accessory equipment, shielding and immobilization devices.
5. Determines the course of action for an emergency or problem 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 – Patient 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. Verifies that the patient has consented to the procedure and fully understands its risks, benefits, alternatives and follow-up. The mammography technologist verifies that written or informed consent has been obtained.
2. Provides accurate explanations and instructions at an appropriate time and at a level the patients and their care providers can understand. Addresses patient questions and concerns regarding the procedure.
3. Refers questions about diagnosis, treatment or prognosis to a licensed independent practitioner.
4. Provides related patient education.
5. Explains precautions regarding administration of medications.

#### *Specific Criteria*

The mammography technologist:

1. Educates the patient on the benefits of early detection of breast cancer.
2. Educates the patient, when requested, on radiation the value and use of additional projections or alternative breast imaging procedures.
3. Educates the patient on the need for adequate compression in achieving a quality mammogram and instructs the patient to indicate 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 each step of the action plan to the patient 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. Utilizes 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. Performs standard projections during a screening mammogram and additional projections to ensure breast tissue is adequately imaged.
2. Ensures correct annotation of images.
3. Applies appropriate radiopaque markers to the breast to mark nipples, scars, lumps, etc.
4. Exercises clinical judgment in the application of adequate compression to acquire a quality mammographic image.
5. Performs the required or recommended projections during a diagnostic mammogram.
6. Informs the patient of the right to receive a lay summary result in accordance with the Mammography Quality Standards Act of 1992 (MQSA).
7. Assists in the collecting and labeling of tissue samples for further processing.

## **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 may 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 revised action plan to appropriate team members.

#### *Specific Criteria*

The mammography technologist:

1. Evaluates the quality of each mammographic.

## **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 appropriate health care provider when immediate clinical response is necessary based on procedural findings and patient condition.

#### *Specific Criteria*

The mammography technologist:

1. Adjusts imaging parameters, patient procedure or computer-generated information to improve the outcome.

## **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 evidenced-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 exceptions from the established criteria or procedures.
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 clinical history and location of visible and palpable breast conditions.
2. Documents the location of previous breast imaging procedures and obtains authorization for 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, in accordance with established guidelines.
2. Confirms that equipment performance, maintenance and operation comply with manufacturer's specifications.
3. Verifies that protocol and procedure manuals include recommended criteria and are reviewed and revised.

#### *Specific Criteria*

The mammography technologist:

1. Sets required quality control test criteria and performs tests at required intervals adhering to state and federal regulations and guidelines.

## **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. Assesses services, procedures and environment to meet or exceed established guidelines and adjusts the action plan.
2. Monitors equipment to meet or exceed established standards and adjusts the action plan.
3. Assesses and maintains the integrity of medical supplies such as a lot/expiration, sterility, etc.

#### *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 along with the biological effects of radiation, sound wave or magnetic field and protection.
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.

#### *Specific Criteria*

The mammography technologist:

1. Communicates to the lead interpreting physician and medical physicist about quality control tests as required.
2. Monitors image production to determine technical acceptability.

## 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 the required quality control tests before breast imaging is performed.
2. Reviews the medical physicist's report and inspection reports to assess the quality of the mammographic equipment performance.
3. Collaborates with the lead interpreting physician and medical maintain equipment in compliance 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. Proceeds with the mammographic procedure only when mammography equipment is in correct working order and results from the required quality control tests, medical physicist's report and inspection are in compliance.

## **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 modified action plan.

#### *Specific Criteria*

The mammography technologist:

1. Performs the annual medical outcomes audit and provides results to each interpreting licensed independent practitioner.

## **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 in accordance with established guidelines.
2. Documents in a timely, accurate and comprehensive manner.

#### *Specific Criteria*

The mammography technologist:

1. Provides documentation of the quality assurance program as required for the lead interpreting physician, medical physicist, accrediting body and state and federal inspectors.



## **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 diagnostic study or treatment.
5. Anticipates and responds to patient needs.
6. Respects cultural variations.

#### *Specific Criteria*

The mammography technologist:

1. Performs mammographic procedures that meet or exceed expected quality guidelines and documents variances.

## **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 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. Completes education related to practice.
2. Maintains credentials and certification related to practice.
3. Participates in continuing education to maintain and enhance competency and performance.
4. Shares knowledge and expertise with others.

#### *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 members of the health care team.
2. Develops 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 respect for the patient's dignity, age-specific needs and culture.
2. Acts as a patient advocate.
3. Takes responsibility 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.

#### *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**

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

Medication Injection Through Existing Vascular Access

Medication Injections by Radiologic Technologists

Placement of Personal Radiation Monitoring Devices