

NON-CLINICAL REGISTRANTS RETURNING TO PRACTICE POLICY

POLICY NUMBER: CR004-01

DATE APPROVED: November 13, 2020

DATE TO BE REVIEWED: November 13, 2023

DISTRIBUTION: NSCMIRTP Registrants

COMMITTEE: Credentials Committee

DATE(S) REVIEWED (REVISED):

ISSUING AUTHORITY: NSCMIRTP Board

APPROVAL:  

BACKGROUND

NSCMIRTP recognizes MIRTP practice involves the clinical and technical aspects of the profession and 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 stipulates that registrants must meet currency hours requirements as laid out in policy CR013-01. 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 registrants 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. Further, a registrant must practice in accordance with the Standards of Practice and Code of Ethics of the NSCMIRTP. This means that registrants are responsible for ensuring that they are practicing safely, competently, and ethically whether their practice is clinical or non-clinical. If a registrant wishes to expand their personal scope or regain areas or previous clinical practice that they are not currently practicing it is up to the MIRTP and the employer to decide if a clinical refresher is required and how progress will be assessed. If the current clinical competency of a registrant is ever questioned, it is the responsibility of the MIRTP to prove they have complied with their legislative requirements demonstrating they have the current knowledge, skill and judgment to be practicing clinical procedures. For individuals that have not met the minimum 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 medical 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 a 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

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