

USE OF PROTECTIVE TITLES

POLICY NUMBER: CR-014-02

DATE APPROVED: September 14, 2021

DATE TO BE REVIEWED: September 14, 2024

DISTRIBUTION: NSCMIRTP Registrants

COMMITTEE: Credentials Committee

DATE(S) REVIEWED (REVISED):

ISSUING AUTHORITY: NSCMIRTP Board

APPROVAL: 

POLICY

This policy is to define who is entitled to use the protected titles as outlined in the NSCMIRTP Act.

RATIONALE

It is required that the public be provided with accurate and transparent information related to who is caring for them. The use of protected titles indicates you are a licensed professional with the NSCMIRTP. The protected titles as listed in the NSCMIRTP Act must only be used by those individuals who are actively registered with the College.

PROCEDURE

All care providers should introduce themselves to patients using their appropriate professional title. An extensive list of protected titles and their variations are listed in the Sections 22-33 of the NSCMIRTP Act. Examples of protected titles found in the Act include Diagnostic Medical Sonographer, Magnetic Resonance Technologist, Nuclear Medicine Technologist, Radiation Therapist and Radiological Technologist. Further information of protected titles can also be found sections 22-37 of the Act .

Guidelines to use of protected titles:

- Those with practicing licenses should introduce themselves using their protected titles along with their name.
- Students must ensure they introduce themselves as students.
- Those licensed as a New Graduate must introduce themselves as a "graduate" with any of the protected titles.
- Only those who are actively registered with the NSCMIRTP can introduce themselves using their protected title. This excludes those professionals who are on a leave, are retired, etc.
- Those who are actively registered with the NSCMIRTP but are practicing outside their scope of practice, cannot introduce themselves using their protected title. An example of this is a Diagnostic Medical Sonographer working in an entertainment ultrasound clinic.
- When signing medical charts etc... registrants should sign with their protected titles of MRT or DMS.
- In the event of a threatened or continuing violation of the Act or the regulations, the College may apply to a judge for an injunction to restrain the person from continuing or committing the violation and the judge, where the judge considers it to be just, may grant such an injunction.



Exceptions to use of protected titles:

- Section 22 (3)(b) states that there can be exceptions to the use of protected titles. This relates to Nurse Sonographers practicing in Pediatric Echocardiography and the Fetal Assessment and Treatment Center at the IWK Health Center. Nurse sonographers must hold an active license with The Nova Scotia College of Nursing (NSCN) and not the NSCMIRTP. Therefore, Nurse sonographers must refer to themselves with their RN credentials as well for transparency for the public.