



2013 Annual Activity Summary

About the Alliance of Medical Radiation Technologists Regulators of Canada (AMRTRC)

AMRTRC is the alliance of six provincial medical radiation technologist (MRT) regulators who have come together to ensure public protection by further advancing MRT regulation and standards, related, issues and patient care.

Officially incorporated on September 28, 2011, AMRTRC is an organization with six members – all of whom are MRT regulators. Individually, these regulators are responsible for ensuring safe, quality, professional, competent imaging and radiation therapy services in their respective jurisdictions. This is achieved through the regulation and licensing of MRTs which helps ensure that MRTs practice in accordance with defined practice, competence, conduct, ethical and professional standards. AMRTRC members also endorse professional development, and encourage and promote excellence in patient care.

Together, AMRTRC members hope to address and evolve MRT regulation and regulatory issues to enhance safe, competent, and ethical care for Canadians.

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GOALS OF AMRTRC:

- Develop, promote and evaluate common standards between jurisdictions
- Encourage and promote standardised regulatory policies and procedures
- Facilitate communication and information sharing
- Facilitate MRT mobility between regulated jurisdictions
- Support other provincial/territorial MRT organizations in their pursuit of MRT regulation



HIGHLIGHTS

KEY PROJECTS

Hybrid Imaging Survey

In May 2013, Alain Crompt and Kathy Hilsenteger presented the findings of the Hybrid Imaging Survey at the 71st Annual General Conference of the Canadian Association of Medical Radiation Technologists (CAMRT) in St. John's, Newfoundland. It was shared that this was "the first nationwide survey of MRTs who operated hybrid imaging equipment." The survey provided AMRTRC with an appreciation of the number of hybrid imaging units in use in each province, who is operating that equipment, and what education the MRT has received in order to operate the hybrid imaging unit. The information learned from the survey results will inform provincial regulators as policies on the use of hybrid imaging equipment are developed.

Almost 400 responses were analysed with surveys being completed in all 10 provinces; the territories currently have no practice sites in which hybrid imaging equipment is available.

Equipment Distribution Map from Hybrid Imaging Survey



HIGHLIGHTS

The conclusions made from the Hybrid Imaging Survey results were the following:

- Resources are readily available to bridge the knowledge gaps that may exist
- Both employers and technologists acknowledge that additional education, for the technologist, is required for the safe and effective operation of hybrid equipment
- There is no clear consensus on what type of additional education is required
- Subsequent research will be structured to capture more specific information

AMRTRC Website

Recognizing the value of the World Wide Web, AMRTRC continues to use its website—www.amrtrc.ca—to share information about MRTs and professional regulation. In 2013, a list of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) was added to the site, answering eight of those FAQs:

1. What is a profession?
2. What does it mean to be a professional?
3. What is the purpose of regulation?
4. What does it mean to be self-regulating?
5. Why does regulation matter?
6. What is the role of a health regulatory organization?
7. How are colleges (i.e. health regulatory organizations) run?
8. How is a college different from a professional association?

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Canadian Association of Medical Radiation Technologists (CAMRT)

AMRTRC participated in discussions regarding a collaborative initiative to create a new framework between CAMRT, provincial organizations, and AMRTRC. In October 2013, the AMRTRC Board of Directors voted to support, in principle, the framework of the MOU.

AMRTRC Board of Directors

- ◆ **Alain Crompton, President**
- ◆ **Chelsea Wilker,
Vice President**
- ◆ **Kathy Hilsenteger,
Treasurer**
- ◆ **Linda Gough, Secretary**
- ◆ **Karren Fader**
- ◆ **Johnathan Galloway**



HIGHLIGHTS

Symposium: Regulating the Sonographer

The first Symposium was held by AMRTRC on March 19, 2013, in Toronto, Ontario. The focus of this inaugural event was “Regulating the Sonographer”.

The Symposium provided an opportunity for learning and dialogue, with participants being challenged to consider the following:

1. Is there a risk of harm to the public related to the practice of diagnostic medical sonographers, and if so, what is it?
2. Are sonographers willing and ready to be regulated in the public interest?
3. What is the current status of the regulation of sonographers in the provinces of Canada, the USA, the UK and Australia?
4. What is the current status of education and certification of sonographers in Canada?
5. What is the perspective of the sonographers’ professional associations on regulation?

Symposium: Regulating the Sonographer PROGRAM	
8:15 a.m. - 9:25 a.m.	Registration & Breakfast
9:25 a.m. - 9:55 a.m.	Welcome and Opening Remarks
9:55 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.	Regulation of Diagnostic Medical Sonographers - Current Status
10:15 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.	Regulating Health Professions in the Public Interest - Why and How?
10:30 a.m. - 11:20 a.m.	Practice of Diagnostic Medical Sonographers in a Diagnostic Imaging Department: A Hospital Manager's Perspective
11:20 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.	Risk of Harm Posed by Diagnostic Medical Sonography: The Energy and the Practice
11:45 a.m. - 11:55 a.m.	Refreshment Break
11:55 a.m. - 12:15 a.m.	Setting the Stage for Quality Regulation
12:15 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.	Lunch
12:30 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.	Self-Regulation in the 21 st Century: Interprofessional Regulatory Collaboration in Health Care in NS
1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.	Regulation of Medical Radiation Technologists and Diagnostic Medical Sonographers - the Nova Scotia Experience
2:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.	Regulating Diagnostic Medical Sonographers
2:30 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.	Refreshment Break
2:45 p.m. - 3:15 p.m.	Medical Competency Profiles and Certification Association for Sonographers
3:15 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.	Professional Practice Guidelines for Diagnostic Medical Sonographers
3:30 p.m. - 3:50 p.m.	Story of a Member: Medical Radiation Technologists and Diagnostic Medical Sonographers: Provincial Associations
3:50 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.	Closing Remarks

The 70 representatives from regulators, educators, government and a variety of practice sites from across Canada in attendance, learned about the evolving sector of the Canadian healthcare landscape through presentations, including:

- Linda Gough, Registrar of CMRTO, on “Regulation of Diagnostic Medical Sonographers—Current Status”
- Richard Steinecke, Partner in Steinecke Maciura LeBlanc, on “Regulating Health Professions in the Public Interest—Why and How?”
- David M. Price, Director of Diagnostic Services, Queensway Carleton Hospital, on “Practice of Diagnostic Medical Sonographers in a Diagnostic Imaging Department: A Hospital Manager’s Perspective”
- Alain Crompt, Directeur général et secrétaire of OTIMRO/EPMQ/OTIMRO, on “Risk of Harm Related to Diagnostic Medical Sonography: The Energy and the Practice”
- Thomas Corcoran, Chair of Ontario’s Health Professions Regulatory Advisory Council, on “Criteria for the Regulation of Health Professions”
- Suzanne McGurn, Assistant Deputy Minister at Ontario’s Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, on “Setting the Stage for Quality Regulation”
- Marjorie Hickey, Partner at McInnes Cooper, on “Self-Regulation in the 21st Century—Interprofessional Regulatory Collaboration in Health Care in Nova Scotia”

HIGHLIGHTS

- Karren Fader, President of NSAMRT, with Joann Chapman, on “Regulation of MRTs and Diagnostic Medical Sonographers—the NS Experience”
- Denise MacIver, Associate Dean of the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology (NAIT), on “Educating Diagnostic Medical Sonographers”
- Janice Hickey Scharf, Chairperson of the Canadian Association of Registered Diagnostic Ultrasound Professionals with Sheena Bhimji-Hewitt, on the “National Competency Profiles and Certification Examination for Sonographers”
- Wendy Lawson, President of the Canadian Society of Diagnostic Medical Sonographers, on “Professional Practice Guidelines for Diagnostic Medical Sonographers”
- Greg Toffner, Deputy CEO of the Ontario Association of Medical Radiation Sciences, on a “Story of a Merger: MRTs’ and Diagnostic Medical Sonographers’ Provincial Associations”

This first event was a great success, surpassing expectations of the AMRTRC. The opportunity to hear from colleagues from across the country on the many complicated issues related to the most appropriate model for the regulation of sonography was of a great benefit to the participants and AMRTRC as a whole.

STRATEGIC PLAN

The AMRTRC continues to monitor the organization’s adherence to the Strategic Plan that was developed and approved In November of 2012.

Strategic Direction #1

AMRTRC is committed to responsible and accountable governance and management.

Strategic Direction #2

AMRTRC promotes awareness and understanding of the role of the MRT regulator through education and communication.

Strategic Direction #3

AMRTRC is the voice of MRT regulators in Canada.

Strategic Direction #4

AMRTRC ensures the safe and ethical practice of MRT’s by promoting excellence in regulatory practices.

AMRTRC focuses on its ability to affect safe, competent, and ethical care for Canadians in the evolution of medical radiation technology regulation.

Alliance of Medical Radiation Technologists Regulators of Canada (AMRTRC)

Members:

Alberta College of Medical Diagnostic & Therapeutic Technologists (ACMDTT)

College of Medical Radiation Technologists of Ontario (CMRTO)

New Brunswick Association of Medical Radiation Technologists (NBAMRT)

Nova Scotia Association of Medical Radiation Technologists (NSAMRT)

Ordre des technologies en imagerie médicale, en radio-oncologie et en électrophysiologie médicale du Québec (OTIMROEPMQ)

Saskatchewan Association of Medical Radiation Technologists (SAMRT)



For more information, visit us online at www.amrtrc.ca.



Our members

Provincial MRT regulators

AMRTRC has six members-all of whom are MRT regulators. Individually, we are responsible for ensuring safe, quality, professional, competent imaging and radiation therapy services in our respective jurisdictions. This is achieved through the regulation and licensing of MRTs which helps ensure that MRTS practice in accordance with defined practice, competence, conduct, ethical and professional standards. We also endorse professional development, and encourage and promote excellence in patient care.

Quick Links:

- [News](#)
- [FAQs](#)
- [Associations](#)
- [Resources](#)

Who we are

1. [Alberta College of Medical Diagnostic & Therapeutic Technologists](#)
2. [College of Medical Radiation Technologists of Ontario](#)
3. [New Brunswick Association of Medical Radiation Technologists](#)
4. [Nova Scotia Association of Medical Radiation Technologists](#)
5. [Ordre des technologues en imagerie médicale en radio-oncologie et en électrophysiologie médicale du Québec](#)
6. [Saskatchewan Association of Medical Radiation Technologists](#)

Click on the regulator links above for information on regulation and licensing in each of these jurisdictions.

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