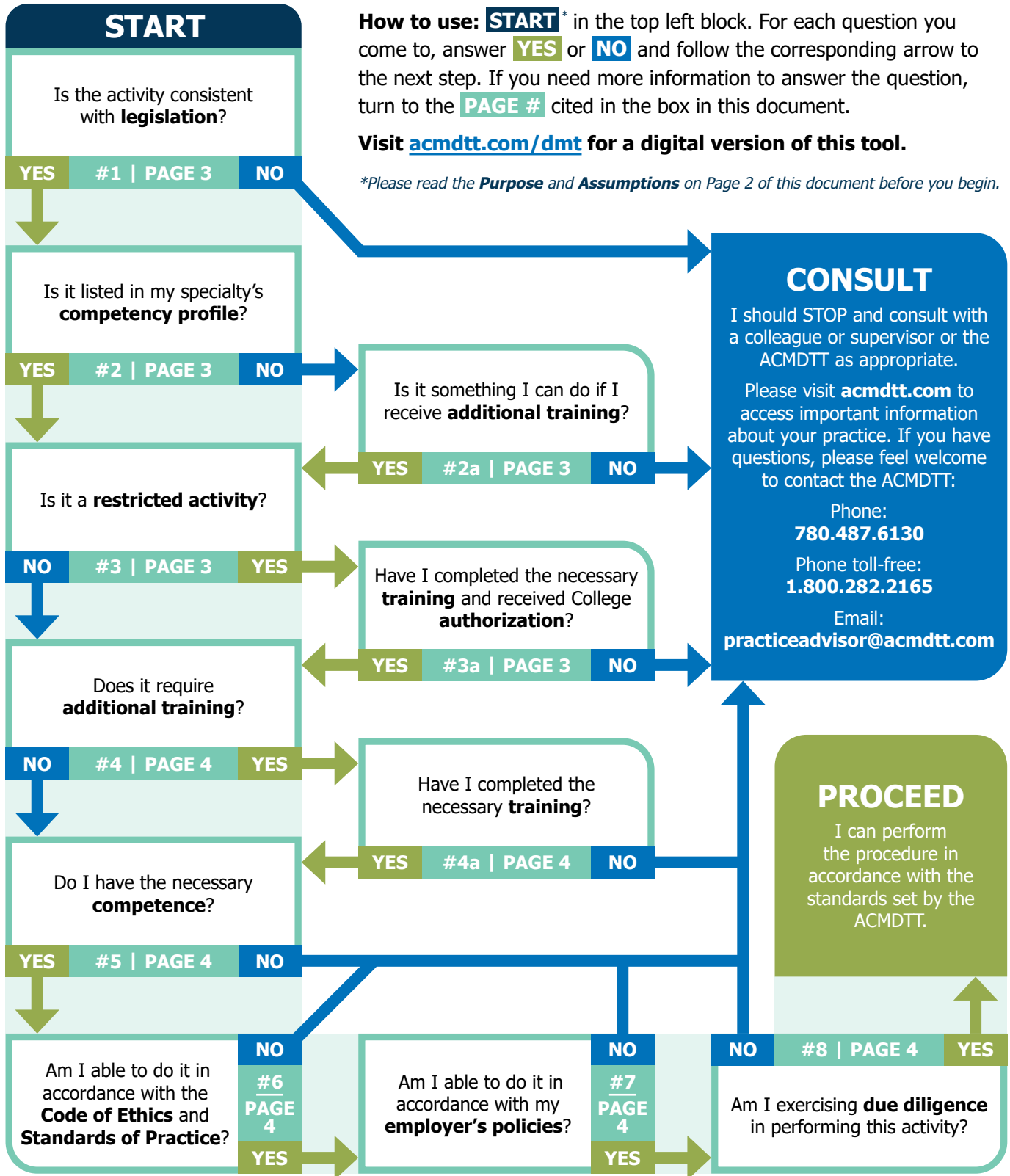


Decision-Making Tool for ACMDTT Regulated Members



How to use: **START*** in the top left block. For each question you come to, answer **YES** or **NO** and follow the corresponding arrow to the next step. If you need more information to answer the question, turn to the **PAGE #** cited in the box in this document.

Visit acmdtt.com/dmt for a digital version of this tool.

*Please read the **Purpose** and **Assumptions** on Page 2 of this document before you begin.



Alberta College of Medical Diagnostic and Therapeutic Technologists

T: 780.487.6130 • TF: 1.800.282.2165 • practiceadvisor@acmdtt.com • acmdtt.com

The Alberta College of Medical Diagnostic and Therapeutic Technologists exists so that the public is assured of receiving safe, competent and ethical diagnostic and therapeutic care by a regulated and continually advancing profession.

Decision-Making Tool for ACMDTT Regulated Members

Purpose: The purpose of this tool is to guide regulated members of the Alberta College of Medical Diagnostic and Therapeutic Technologists (ACMDTT or the College) in determining appropriate and safe practice using the ACMDTT's key foundational documents*.

Assumptions:

- This tool is targeted at regulated members with all levels of experience and in all practice areas and settings.
- The regulated member has the appropriate order/protocol for the procedure, in accordance with their employer's policies and procedures.

How to use this tool: This tool includes a series of questions to guide the regulated member in determining if a specific activity is appropriate and safe for them to perform. It also provides descriptions of and links to key foundational documents* for the regulated member to consult for additional information. An interactive digital version of the tool is available at acmdtt.com/dmt.

Please note that all URLs provided in this document will redirect to the most up-to-date documents and pages. Visit acmdtt.com/resources to access all documents* from one page or acmdtt.com/dmt-appendices to download the **Appendices** PDF and access them all in one printable document.

Examples

As a radiological technologist, can I administer Buscopan®?

- 1) Is the activity consistent with legislation? **Yes.** [According to the HPA, medical diagnostic and therapeutic technologists may provide restricted activities authorized by the regulations.]
- 2) Is it listed in my specialty's competency profile? **No.** [This activity is not listed in the Radiological Technology Competency Profile.]
 - 2a) Is it something I can do if I receive additional training? **Yes.** [It requires additional training.]
 - 3) Is it a restricted activity? **Yes.** [It is listed as a restricted activity under Nuclear Medicine Technologists.]
 - 3a) Have I completed the necessary training and received College authorization? **Yes.** [Assuming you have.]
 - 4) Does it require additional training? **No.** [It requires no training beyond College authorization.] *Continue to (5).*
 - 5) Do I have the necessary competence? **Yes.** [Assuming you do.]
 - 6) Am I able to do it in accordance with the Code of Ethics and Standards of Practice? **Yes.** [Assuming you follow both.]
 - 7) Am I able to do it in accordance with my employer's policies? **Yes.** [Assuming you can.]
 - 8) Am I exercising due diligence in performing this activity? **Yes.** [Assuming you are.]

As an MRT, can I monitor and record vital signs during a DI test?

- 1) Is the activity consistent with legislation? **Yes.** [According to the HPA, medical diagnostic and therapeutic technologists may assess the medical condition and needs of patients before, during and after the procedures they're authorized to perform.]
- 2) Is it listed in my specialty's competency profile? **Yes.** [This activity is listed in all MRT competency profiles.]
- 3) Is it a restricted activity? **No.** [It is not listed as a restricted activity in the Regulation.]
- 4) Does it require additional training? **Yes.** [Training is normally provided by your employer. Please consult your employer and/or the ACMDTT if you're not sure what training is required.]
 - 4a) Have I completed the necessary training? **Yes.** [Assuming you have.] *Continue to (5).*

PROCEED: I can perform the procedure in accordance with the standards set by the ACMDTT.

*The key foundational documents referred to in this tool are the *Health Professions Act (HPA)*, *Medical Diagnostic and Therapeutic Technologists Profession Regulation (the Regulation)*, Code of Ethics, Standards of Practice and competency profiles.

Questions

1) Is the activity consistent with legislation?

The *Health Professions Act* (HPA) provides a framework for governance and defines the requirements that regulated health professions in Alberta need to follow to provide safe and competent care to the public.

- **Health Professions Act** (see **Appendix 1** for the relevant passage): acmdtt.com/hpa*

2) Is it listed in my specialty's competency profile?

The Entry-to-Practice Competency Profiles identify the minimum learning outcomes required for each of the specialties. The College recognizes that achievement of entry-level proficiency in each competency requires unique cognitive, psychomotor and affective learning.

- **Electroencephalography Competency Profile** (see **Appendix 2**): acmdtt.com/enpcp*
- **Magnetic Resonance Technology Competency Profile** (see **Appendix 3**): acmdtt.com/mrcp*
- **Nuclear Medicine Technology Competency Profile** (see **Appendix 4**): acmdtt.com/nmcp*
- **Radiological Technology Competency Profile** (see **Appendix 5**): acmdtt.com/rcp*
- **Radiation Therapy Competency Profile** (see **Appendix 6**): acmdtt.com/tcp*

2a) Is it something I can do if I receive additional training?

If the procedure isn't listed in **your specialty's** competency profile, you may still be able to do it if it falls under the category of restricted activities (see Question 3 for details) or if you receive additional training.

3) Is it a restricted activity?

A restricted activity is a high-risk activity performed by a member when providing a health service that requires the member to have specific competencies, skills and authorization, by the regulations under the HPA, to perform the activity safely and competently. The *Medical Diagnostic and Therapeutic Technologists Profession Regulation* (the Regulation) of the HPA outlines the restricted activities for members, which include procedures considered to be enhanced practice and those that require additional authorizations.

- **Medical Diagnostic and Therapeutic Technologists Profession Regulation** (see **Appendix 7** for the relevant passage): acmdtt.com/regulation*

3a) Have I completed the necessary training and received College authorization?

The training for many restricted activities is provided in your initial College-approved educational program, and you are automatically authorized by the College to perform them as a regulated member. In order to perform restricted activities considered enhanced practice or requiring additional authorization, however, you must first **complete advanced training** approved by Council. Approved programs can be found on the College's Additional and Enhanced Practice Authorizations web page. Once you've completed the training, you must **seek authorization** from the College before you perform the restricted activity. When all requirements have been satisfied, the College will add the authorization to your practice permit indicating the achievement of an enhanced practice skill set.

Enhanced practice is when you perform restricted activities that are not primarily authorized for the area of practice in which you're registered. Examples include **CT and Contrast Media** (nuclear medicine technologists), **Enhanced Gastrointestinal Fluoroscopy** (radiological technologists), **Ictal SPECT Injection** (electroneurophysiology technologists), **Magnetic Resonance in Radiation Therapy** (radiation therapists), **Medication Administration** (radiological technologists, magnetic resonance technologists) and **Quantitative Computed Tomography** (nuclear medicine technologists).

**Please note that all URLs provided in this document will redirect to the most up-to-date documents and pages.*

Additional authorizations differ from enhanced practice in that the additional competencies/restricted activities are included in your specialty's section of the regulation. Examples include **Automated Breast Ultrasound** and **Breast Ultrasound** (radiological technologists), **Bladder Ultrasound** and **Prostate Ultrasound** (radiation therapists), **Intraoperative Monitoring** and **Needle Authorization** (electroneurophysiology technologists) and **Venipuncture** (radiological technologists, magnetic resonance technologists, radiation therapists).

- **Additional and Enhanced Practice Authorizations:** acmdtt.com/authorization*

4) Does it require additional training?

There are additional activities that are not restricted but may require a practitioner to ensure they have the appropriate education and training; for example, **vital sign monitoring**.

4a) Have I completed the necessary training?

Training for these types of activities is normally provided by your employer. Please consult your employer and/or the ACMDTT if you're not sure what training is required.

5) Do I have the necessary competence?

As a regulated member, you must limit your practice to those techniques and procedures that you are competent and currently authorized to perform by virtue of education and experience. In determining if you have the necessary competence to perform a procedure, consider the following questions:

- Do I have the **knowledge** to perform this competently?
- Do I have the **skills** to perform this competently?
- Do I have the **clinical reasoning abilities** to perform this competently?

6) Am I able to do it in accordance with the Code of Ethics and Standards of Practice?

The ACMDTT Code of Ethics represents the profession's vision of practice in the interest of the public. It serves to inspire regulated members to uphold the integrity of the profession and the trust of the public.

The ACMDTT Standards of Practice represent the expected minimum level of performance for regulated members and reflects delivery of high-quality, effective, safe and ethical care to patients.

- **Code of Ethics** (see [Appendix 8](#)): acmdtt.com/coe*
- **Standards of Practice** (see [Appendix 9](#)): acmdtt.com/sop*

7) Am I able to do it in accordance with my employer's policies?

In keeping with the ACMDTT Code of Ethics and Standards of Practice (see Question 6), regulated members must adhere to their employer's applicable policies and procedures.

- If your employer's policies and procedures are **more restrictive** than ACMDTT's requirements, you must **adhere to your employer's policies**.
- Where your employer's policies are **more permissive** than those of the ACMDTT, you must **adhere to ACMDTT's requirements**.

8) Am I exercising due diligence in performing this activity?

According to the Standards of Practice (see Question 6), a regulated member "exercises due diligence for the safety of patients, colleagues, self and the general public when conducting procedures and providing services. The member also maintains safe work practices and effectively manages any potential risk to safety by adhering to relevant provincial and federal regulations and employer/organization policies and procedures."

**Please note that all URLs provided in this document will redirect to the most up-to-date documents and pages.*