



Position Statement

Magnetic Resonance Technologists Interpreting Orbit X-rays

September 2011; Reviewed September 2015

ACMDTT Position

Evaluation of a magnetic resonance image for technical sufficiency is an expectation of magnetic resonance (MR) technology practice. Review of the images includes the evaluation of technical consideration, artefact and diagnostic quality of magnetic resonance images and is not inclusive of assessment of orbit radiographs or image interpretation.

MR technologists are competent in ensuring patient safety through careful assessment of contraindications for magnetic resonance imaging. In screening patients for metallic fragments in the eye, MR technologists are not authorized to interpret orbital x-rays and as a result are not authorized to initiate MR imaging without interpretation of the radiograph by the radiologist or radiology resident.

Background

All regulated members are required to determine whether any contraindications exist before proceeding with a patient examination or treatment. The magnetic resonance (MR) technologist is required to screen patients for the presence of metal within their body. This includes the risk of metallic fragments in the eye. It is possible that patients at high risk of metallic fragments in the eye are referred for an x-ray of the orbit to rule out any contraindications for the magnetic resonance imaging procedure.

References: Health Professions Act, Schedule 12 (2009).

The College protects and serves Albertans by supporting member provision of safe, competent and ethical patient care

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