Updated requirements for

SCCT Verification of Experience, Level 2 and Level 3

SCCT recently released new guidelines for Training Cardiology and Radiology Trainees as Independent Practitioners (Level II) and Advanced Practitioners (Level III) in Cardiovascular Computed Tomography. Verification requirements will be changing to match the new guideline.

Level 2: SCCT Verification of Cardiovascular CT Experience Program

SCCT offers a process for the verification of training in cardiovascular CT based on both the SCCT training guideline (2020) and the COCATS 4 Task Force 7 Training Statement (2015). The verification process has also been designed to align with CBCCT eligibility as of January 1, 2020. An outline of these requirements is listed below for those physicians who have already completed residency/fellowship training. Verification is valid for 36 months following acceptance, following which there is a renewal process.

Initial experience for Level 2 (Independent Practitioner); all are required

A. Board certification or eligibility (ACGME Radiology, Cardiology, Nuclear Medicine) and a valid medical license (U.S. or non-U.S. equivalent).
B. 250 mentored CCT cases within a 36-month timeframe*
C. Completion of 20 hours of lectures and/or CME credits related to CCT within a 36-month timeframe
D. Eight weeks of training in cardiovascular CT (these do not need to be consecutive).

*250 mentored cases – additional details

- Non-contrast and contrast-enhanced studies may be evaluated in the same patients, but a minimum of 200 unique contrast studies are required.
- For at least 65 contrast cases, the candidate must be physically present and involved in patient preparation, data acquisition, image reconstruction and interpretation of the case. If exceptional circumstances inhibit physical presence, trainees may be present via video conferencing options. Simulation environments may also offer opportunities to supplement the recommended number of live cases. Nonetheless, in either of these alternative scenarios, the requirements for direct engagement in patient preparation, data acquisition, image reconstruction and interpretation remain.
- 150 contrast cases must involve interactive manipulation of reconstructed datasets using a 3-D imaging workstation (this can include established teaching files and previously acquired cases). Cases from online courses or virtual workshops may also qualify, but only if they provide candidates with virtual workstation interaction for each case counted and remain mentored.
- A maximum of 50 cases can be counted from review of educational CDs, online courses and educational presentations (i.e. not involving direct manipulation of reconstructed datasets)
• Interactive manipulation of the reconstructed data sets should include all components of cardiac as well as non-cardiac structures.
• For all cases, there must be an opportunity for interaction between the applicant and trainer (Level 2 or 3 trained practitioner).

The verification process
• Applications are submitted online only via the SCCT form (paper applications are not accepted).
• Candidates complete the online application form, detailing their experience and training sites for the components above.
• Candidates will be asked to document that they have met the Level 2 requirements including specifically 65 directly performed cases. Case logbooks and breakdowns will be subject to audit; if audited, an applicant must be able to provide an anonymized logbook or other documentation which includes case specifics including indication and diagnosis.
• Candidates will be asked to upload evidence of CME requirements.
• The application will include names and contact information (address, phone number and email address) of the program(s) for direct verification of on-site training.
• Application requires payment in full at submission: SCCT members $295, Non-members: $495.
• Applications are reviewed by members of the SCCT Verification Committee. Requests for exceptions are reviewed by several committee members and may delay approval.
• SCCT endeavors to provide letters of verification within 4 weeks.

Level 3: SCCT Verification of Cardiovascular CT Experience Program
SCCT offers a process for the verification of training in cardiovascular CT based on both the SCCT training guideline (2020) and the COCATS 4 Task Force 7 Training Statement (2015). The verification process has also been designed to align with CBCCT eligibility as of January 1, 2020. An outline of these requirements is listed below for those physicians who have already completed residency/fellowship training. Verification is valid for 36 months following acceptance, following which there is a renewal process.

Initial experience for Level 3 (Advanced Practitioner); all are required
A. Board certification or eligibility (ACGME Radiology, Cardiology, Nuclear Medicine) and a valid medical license (U.S. or non-U.S. equivalent).
B. 450 mentored CCT cases within a 48-month timeframe*
C. Completion of 40 hours of lectures and/or CME credits related to CCT in preceding 36 months
D. 24 weeks of training in cardiovascular CT (these do not need to be consecutive).
E. Peer recognition (to include at least one of the following):
   1. Faculty lecturer for 2 or more CME-accredited courses on CCT
   2. Fellowship/residency teaching activities
   3. Three or more peer reviewed publications in CCT
F. Evidence of advanced training (Level 2 or Level 3) in at least additional cardiac imaging modality
450 mentored cases – additional details

- Non-contrast and contrast-enhanced studies may be evaluated in the same patients, but a minimum of 300 contrast studies and a minimum of 100 non-contrast studies are required.
- For at least 150 contrast cases, the candidate must be physically present and involved in patient preparation, data acquisition, image reconstruction and interpretation of the case.
- All cases must involve interactive manipulation of reconstructed datasets using a 3-D imaging workstation (this can include established teaching files and previously acquired cases). Cases from online courses or virtual workshops may also qualify, but only if they provide candidates with virtual workstation interaction for each case counted and remain mentored.
- Interactive manipulation of the reconstructed data sets should include all components of cardiac as well as non-cardiac structures.
- For all cases, there must be an opportunity for interaction between the applicant and trainer (Level 3 trained practitioner)

The verification process

- Applications are submitted online only via the SCCT form (paper applications are not accepted).
- Candidates complete the online application form, detailing their experience and training sites for the components above.
- Candidates will be asked to document that they have met the Level 3 requirements including specifically 150 directly performed cases. Case logbooks and breakdowns will be subject to audit; if audited, an applicant must be able to provide an anonymized logbook or other documentation which includes case specifics including indication and diagnosis.
- Candidates will be asked to upload evidence of CME requirements.
- Candidates will be asked to upload evidence of peer recognition (1 of the 3 options in E above).
- Candidates will be asked to upload evidence of advanced training in at least one additional cardiac imaging modality, e.g. board certification, verification from recognized imaging society or signed attestation from imaging lab director.
- The application will include names and contact information (address, phone number and email address) of the program(s) for direct verification of on-site training.
- Application requires payment in full at submission: SCCT members $395, Non-members: $595.
- Applications are reviewed by members of the SCCT verification committee. Requests for exception are reviewed by several committee members and may delay approval.
- SCCT endeavors to provide letters of verification within 4 weeks.