



CONFERENCE OF RADIATION CONTROL PROGRAM DIRECTORS, INC. EXECUTIVE BOARD

POSITION

Establishing a Joint CRCPD/ACR Document Regarding Qualifications and Training for Mammography Inspectors

It is the position of the Executive Board of the Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors, Inc. (CRCPD) that every mammogram should be conducted at a facility that exercises procedures and controls designed to provide quality radiographs with the minimum necessary radiation exposure.

The Board further believes women should be assured that every mammogram has been taken at a facility that participates in and practices nationally-accepted quality control standards.

As part of the quality control program, and to provide assurance to patients, evaluations should be conducted on three levels:

1. A qualified expert (e.g., a medical physicist with specific training in mammography) should evaluate the calibration and operation of mammography equipment and establish a quality control program for the facility to follow. These Quality Control procedures should incorporate at least those factors identified in the ACR Quality Control Procedures for mammography.
2. The facility must fully implement the quality control program; to include all recommended testing established by the qualified expert; and maintain records to document its quality control program.
3. Mammography equipment and facilities should be evaluated by a state radiation control program inspector with qualifications, training and experience which will enable the radiation control program to:
 - (a) Ensure that the equipment is functioning within applicable standards, and that the quality control program is being appropriately implemented;
 - (b) Assure women that there is appropriate oversight to monitor the equipment and procedures; and

(c) Determine compliance with state law.

This evaluation shall include physical measurements and record review which affect patient exposure and the radiographic image.

To evaluate the complete system of imaging factors, and to provide efficient and effective oversight without undue interference to the facility, there should be only one routine state inspection each year.

To provide for adequately trained individuals who can provide support to, and oversight of mammography facilities, there should be an integrated continuum of training for both the qualified experts and the state inspectors. This should be accomplished by a cooperative effort between the CRCPD and ACR. The training, qualifications and roles of both private and public evaluators, as indicated above, should be stated in a document which is endorsed by the Executive Boards of both the CRCPD and ACR.

Adopted: March 19, 1992