

An OSRT Newsletter for Students by Students
Presented by The Ohio Society of Radiologic Technologists



Connect to the New Student Director

Bridget's Widgets

"Now is the time to show you CARE!"

By choosing to become a member of the healthcare team as a radiographic technologist, you have demonstrated a desire to care for patients. Whether it is a reassuring smile, a pat on the hand, or a listening ear, a large portion of our scope of practice is patient care. As a student, I would like to encourage you to join in supporting legislation which has the potential to greatly improve patient care while shaping the future of our profession.

The American Society of Radiologic Technologists has introduced the Consistency, Accuracy, Responsibility and Excellence in Medical Imaging and Radiation Therapy (CARE) Bill to the House and Senate. Similar to the Mammography Quality Standards Act, the purpose of the bill is to ensure all medical imaging and radiation therapy are performed by qualified healthcare workers. It will set minimum education and credentialing standards for healthcare workers who provide, plan or administer any imaging exam or radiation therapy.

You might be wondering why this bill is necessary. Consider this quote from Senator Tom Harkin (D-IA) of the Senate Health, Energy, Labor and Pensions Committee as found on the ASRT web site: *"Each year, more than 300 million radiation therapy treatments and imaging exams like x-rays and MRIs are performed in the United States and unfortunately, many of these procedures are performed by personnel who are not adequately trained or credentialed."* I am livid to think that in some states, a person can deliver pizza one day and turn around and perform x-ray images the next day! This is dangerous not only to our patients, but also to our profession.

Along with ensuring medical imaging and radiation therapy is performed by qualified individuals, the passage of the CARE Bill will have numerous benefits.

According to the ASRT web site, the bill will reduce health costs by millions of dollars by providing accurate diagnoses with fewer repeat exams due to poor quality. It will maximize patient safety by ensuring radiation exposure is as low as possible. It will also increase exam and treatment quality which, in turn, increases patient satisfaction by ensuring exams and treatments are performed by quality technologists with safety and accuracy, while reducing radiation exposure.

Now that you know the importance of the CARE bill, perhaps you are wondering what you can do to help. Over 750,000 imaging technologists, radiation therapists and medical scientists have formed the Alliance for Quality Medical Imaging and Radiation Therapy. The Alliance is urging its members to contact their senators and representatives urging them to support the CARE bill. To facilitate the process, both the Ohio Society of Radiologic Technologists (OSRT) and the ASRT have links on their web sites to eAdvocacy for You. This link provides a very simple form letter that can be automatically routed to your senator and representative. Let your voice be heard. Simply add a brief message about why the CARE bill is important to you and your profession. It only takes a few minutes of your time but the benefits will be immeasurable. The osrt website is www.osrt.org visit the legislation section. The ASRT website is <http://capwiz.com/asrt/home/>

I would like to encourage you to visit the OSRT website at www.osrt.org to learn how you can help ensure the passage of the CARE bill. Please join us in supporting this important legislation which will benefit your patients, your profession, and you.

Sincerely, Bridget Donahue, Student Director
bkd@insight.rr.com



National Radiologic Technology Week®

National Radiologic Technology Week will be held November 7th-13th, 2010. This week is celebrated annually to acknowledge the work of technologists across the nation. The week is held each November to commemorate the anniversary of the x-ray's discovery by Wilhelm Conrad Roentgen on November 8th, 1895. The week long celebration is held to call attention to the valuable work of RT's. As a radiography student you also can participate in this important week of celebration. How? Acknowledge the technologists that you work with daily, simply telling them "thank-you" for explaining an exam, or helping you with a project, is a great way to start! You can also help by volunteering to do a display board at your hospital to let

others know the importance of imaging associates. Remember, you are the future of imaging, so be active now! This year's national theme is, "Delivering Picture perfect CARE." Remember you can make a difference in all that you do!

Leisa Arnold, MHA, RT, (R) (M)

Cardinal Ray's Editor



Vision of the OSRT

The OSRT will promote the excellence of professionals in medical imaging and radiologic science

OSRT Web site:	www.osrt.org
OSRT Toll-free phone number:	1-866-405-OSRT (6778)
OSRT e-mail address:	osrt@neo.rr.com

Mission of the OSRT

Advocate for medical imaging and radiologic science professionals by advancing professional practice and educational standards, and providing leadership in health policy.





