



The American Registry of Radiologic Technologists®

Promoting High Standards of Patient Care by Recognizing Qualified Individuals
in Medical Imaging, Interventional Procedures, and Radiation Therapy.

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Registrants
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CQR Update: April 2012

For Immediate Release
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Planning Ahead for CQR's Launch in 2018

Profile, assessment & targeted CE identified as CQR's foundation

(April 26, 2012) – “For the vast majority of R.T.s, there’s nothing you need to be doing now” is part of the reply to R.T.s with questions about Continuing Qualifications Requirements – or CQR.

For all R.T.s, primary and post-primary certifications earned on or after January 1, 2011, are time-limited to 10 years. Recertification requires completion of the CQR process, and the very first CQR deadline is not until 2021. Registered Radiologist Assistants (R.R.A.s) are unique in that R.R.A. certification has always been time-limited and the CQR process begins in 2013. R.R.A.s will be receiving more details about their CQR process beginning in late 2012.

With that to ease your mind, here’s an update for you.

CQR has three related components. First, R.T.s will assemble a professional profile that highlights achievements related to education, work, special skills and professional development. This important first step gives a big-picture look at how an R.T. has maintained qualifications since first becoming certified. Second, ARRT is developing a unique structured self-assessment process. It’s not a test – it’s different – particularly because it can’t be passed or failed. It’s a learning tool designed to evaluate strengths and weaknesses in knowledge and skills based on the qualifications expected of those becoming certified in the current year. Assessments will use the current content specifications based upon the most recent practice analysis.

Through the self-assessment findings, participants may receive a customized list of “targeted” learning opportunities. These are learning-specific topics targeted to the identified knowledge areas. Completing continuing education activities in these identified areas is the third component of the CQR process.

The CQR process is complementary to existing components of certification and registration requirements. CQR provides the opportunity to demonstrate that your knowledge and skills are up-to-date, helping you re-energize your passion and enjoyment of work and your connection to patients and healthcare.

Because of accelerating advancements in technology and growing capabilities in the healthcare field, the idea of “Once certified, forever qualified” no longer meets the expectations of patients or the profession. Today, this is more accurately described as “Once certified, forever learning, evolving and developing as a qualified professional.” Continuous quality improvement is an expectation across all healthcare facilities, systems and professions.

An R.T.’s compliance phase with CQR will begin seven years into the initial 10-year certification period. For example, for R.T.s earning certification in 2011, the compliance phase can begin in 2018, allowing three years to complete the professional profile, self-assessment and targeted continuing education by 2021. And remember, CQR applies to R.T.s with primary or post-primary certifications earned since January 1, 2011.

ARRT is working with a number of committees made up of volunteers from across the profession to develop a meaningful CQR process – and is committed to helping you stay up-to-date and preparing you to take full advantage of the opportunity when CQR phases begin for the very first R.T.s in 2018.

Watch for updates online at www.arrt.org as development milestones are reached.

About ARRT

The American Registry of Radiologic Technologists promotes high standards of patient care by recognizing qualified individuals in medical imaging, interventional procedures, and radiation therapy. Headquartered in St. Paul, Minn., ARRT evaluates, certifies, and annually registers more than 300,000 radiologic technologists across the United States. For more information, visit www.arrt.org.

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