

LOUISIANA STATE RADIOLOGIC TECHNOLOGY BOARD OF EXAMINERS (LSRTBE)

POSITION ON THE PERFORMANCE OF FLUOROSCOPY

This position statement serves to provide you with information about LRS 37:3200-3219 (Radiologic Technologist Licensing Law) relative to fluoroscopic procedures.

The law requires that anyone in Louisiana using ionizing radiation on humans for diagnostic or therapeutic purposes meet educational, moral and ethical standards in order to be licensed to practice as a Radiologic Technologist. The law makes no distinction on the **type** of ionizing radiation used by licensees and this agency has **always** allowed Licensed Radiographers to perform diagnostic fluoroscopic procedures when so ordered by a licensed physician practitioner. A point to remember is that **all** radiographic procedures are prescriptive by design and our law enforces that concept. No Licensed Radiologic Technologist may perform any ionizing radiation procedure without said prescription.

Therefore, Licensed Radiographers may perform fluoroscopic procedures. However, a Licensed Radiographer is not allowed to make interpretations of radiographic procedures so any fluoroscopic procedures that they perform must be done with a well defined, strict criteria designed by the radiologist and/or physician practitioner who stands behind the competency of the technologist performing the procedure. There may be no deviation from the defined protocol of the procedure without a specific order to do so by the directing physician practitioner.

The LSRTBE defines “physician available” as: *“If there is some type of medical intervention related to the performance of a specific Radiologic procedure or the administration of a medication, or complications caused by either, that must be performed by the licensed physician, then the licensed physician needs to be “available” enough to make that intervention meaningful. This is a matter best determined by the physicians involved.”*

Remember, not all technologists excel in all aspects of the field. There will be technologists who are not good at CT, Cath Lab or Specials but who may be excellent fluoroscopists. This is a matter we leave to the physician practitioners who provide direction and supervision. We assume only individuals with prolonged experience and demonstrated competency will be trusted to perform in the fluoroscopic modality.

On the behalf of and for the Louisiana State Radiologic Technology Board of Examiners I remain,

Richard S. Whitehorn, BSRT(R)

Executive Director

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