

## **CBRPA & RPAS POSITION STATEMENT**

During the October 2009 Meeting of the CBRPA Board of Directors, the decision was made to make a public statement about unqualified individuals performing medical imaging procedures. This statement has also been adopted by the Radiology Practitioner Assistant Society (RPAS).

At a time when the Food & Drug Administration (FDA) is issuing precautions to physicians about over exposure, one must be certain that the operator of ionizing radiation equipment possesses the knowledge and expertise to not only operate the equipment in an effective manner but also to reduce radiation exposure, to perform procedures according to protocol effectively and efficiently and to recognize abnormalities on the images. The organizations that would allow someone who does not possess these essential capabilities to expose patients to ionizing radiation constitutes negligence in their responsibilities.

CBRPA and RPAS concluded that the major professional agencies representing technologists, at the technical and advanced levels, and radiologists' organizations have acquiesced to this growing practice. Due to this apparent acceptance, CBRPA and RPAS feel it is imperative present the following position statement.

### **Position Statement on**

#### **Unqualified Personnel Operating Equipment Producing Ionizing Radiation**

“CBRPA and RPAS support the use of ionizing radiation in the performance of medical imaging procedures, including dynamic and non-dynamic fluoroscopic procedures, by individuals who have met the professional educational standards and who have completed the clinical competency-based training, specifically in the application of radiation physics, radiation biology, radiation safety, procedure protocol and equipment operation.

To promote quality patient care, CBRPA and RPAS support individuals who possess the professional educational standards and have successfully completed the supervised competency-based clinical training in the creation of medical images, with the same requirements being of equal importance in the in the evaluation of medical images. To allow individuals with lesser education and clinical training to function in medical imaging roles places the public at risk for radiation over-exposure and an inaccurate diagnosis.”