

## RADIOLOGY PRACTITIONER ASSISTANT

### POSITION DESCRIPTION

**Position Description:** An RPA is a health care professional certified and registered with the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT) and is credentialed by the Certification Board for Radiology Practitioner Assistants (CBRPA) to provide primary health care services with radiologist supervision\*. Within the physician/RPA relationship and under the supervision, guidance and discretion of the radiologist, RPAs exercise autonomy in decision making in the role of a primary health caregiver with regard to patient assessment, patient management and in providing a broad range of radiology diagnostic and interventional services.

**Position Responsibilities:**

1. The RPA will evaluate the day's schedule of procedures with the supervising staff radiologist and determine where his/her skills will be best utilized.
2. The RPA, after demonstrating competency and under the guidance, supervision\* and discretion of the supervising radiologist, will perform procedures including, but not limited to the following:
  - Fluoroscopic procedures (static and dynamic)
  - Ultrasound, Computed Tomography or Fluoroscopic guided biopsies
  - Ultrasound, Computed Tomography or Fluoroscopic drainages and drainage catheter placements
  - Arthrograms
  - Myelograms
  - Vascular Access Procedures
    - Arteriograms
    - Venograms
  - Venous Access Procedures
    - Declots
    - Permacath Placements
    - Central Venous Line Placement
  - IVC Filter Placement
  - Fistulagrams
  - Gastrostomies
3. Evaluate medical images, review preliminary reports and images with a staff radiologist, and prepare technical reports that will be reviewed and signed off by the supervising radiologist.
4. Assess and evaluate the physiologic and psychological responsiveness of each patient.
5. Participate in patient management, including prescriptive powers for acquisition of additional imaging procedures, following review with the supervising radiologist.
6. Administer and/or order intravenous medications and contrast media, under the supervision\* of a radiologist.
7. Maintain current levels of education in emerging techniques, procedures and therapies by obtaining a minimum of 24 hours of continuing education biannually as required by the ARRT and CBRPA.
8. Maintain values congruent with the Code of Ethics, as well as adhering to national, institutional and/or departmental standards, policies, and procedures regarding the standards of care for patients.

**RPA Position Description– continued:**

**\*Supervision Defined:** Any or all of the staff radiologists present on a given day will provide supervision on a given day. Supervision is defined as:

The overseeing or participation in the work of another individual by a licensed radiologist where at least all of the following conditions exist:

- a. The continuous availability of direct communication in person, by radio, telephone, fax, e-mail, teleradiology or other telecommunications between the RPA and the radiologist.
- b. The availability of the radiologist on a regularly scheduled basis to review the practice of the RPA , to provide consultation to the RPA, to review records, and to further educate the RPA in the performance of their professional duties.
- c. The provision by the radiologists to the RPA of predetermined procedures and protocols.

**Position Qualifications:** To fulfill the position of an RPA, the following qualifications must be met.

- Be a graduate of an educational program recognized by the CBRPA.
- Certified by the CBRPA or considered eligible for the CBRPA certification examination.
- Maintenance of an active ARRT registration status.
- Current certification in Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) skills.
- Validation of participation in continuing education activities with a minimum of 24 hours of Continuing Education Credits in each biannual period.

**NOTICE:** The Position Responsibilities may be modified to meet the requirements of the employer's policies and procedures or to meet state regulations.