

2020



ASMIRT

Position Statement

Certifications

Your profession. Your future.



There are a number of protected titles for medical radiation practice. They include:

Medical Radiation Practitioner (MRP)

Diagnostic Radiographer (DR)

Medical Imaging Technologist (MIT)

Radiographer

Nuclear Medicine Scientist (NMS)

Nuclear Medicine Technologist (NMT)

Radiation Therapist (RT).

For the purposes of our documentation we use the broad descriptor Medical Radiation Practitioner (MRP) recognising that it covers a range of areas of practice.



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Position Statement - Certifications

The Australian Society of Medical Imaging and Radiation Therapy (ASMIRT) is the peak body representing medical radiation practitioners (MRPs) in Australia. The aims of the Society are to promote, encourage, cultivate and maintain the highest principles of practice and proficiency of medical radiation science.

ASMIRT promotes the maintenance of professional and educational standards so that all MRPs contribute to the provision and development of best practice health care. This may be achieved through the application of clinical practice, education, continuing professional development, and research.

Background

This document acknowledges that the MRP profession is a dynamic and expanding profession. There are no specific boundaries of professional practice and, as the understanding and education of MRPs develops as technology advances, the role of the MRP expands into new areas of professional practice and responsibility. The community expects and the profession requires that all MRPs, including recent graduates and experienced professionals, are competent in the procedures that they will undertake in the clinical setting. Clinical competence should be promoted and emphasised from undergraduate education to continuing education. ASMIRT Certifications are offered as an alternate professional development pathway to formal university study.

Certifications

ASMIRT offers a broad range of certification options, including Computed Tomography (CT), Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI), Cardiac and Vascular Angiography, and Mammography. Certifications in Computed Tomography and Cardiac and Vascular Angiography are offered as an alternative professional development pathway to formal university study. Completion of a certification demonstrates interest and knowledge of a specialised area. They contribute to the MRPs CPD requirements for AHPRA registration and may also assist with employment opportunities or career advancement. Certifications involve a clinical component and examination component and are available to all MRPs. A full outline of the available certifications are listed on the ASMIRT website.

No regulatory framework for registration as an MRI practitioner is in place in Australia. However, best practice would recommend that MRI practitioners possess a specific level of training or experience prior to operating MRI equipment. ASMIRT recommends that any MRP undertaking MRI holds Level 1 Certification. Similarly, mammography education is included in Medical Imaging undergraduate and graduate-entry programmes where only a basic knowledge of the field is provided. Competency in mammography is not considered an essential requirement for the accredited practitioner. To achieve and deliver best practice in the area of mammography, ASMIRT sets standards for mammography programmes and programme providers and offers certificates to those MRPs that complete the appropriate clinical and theoretical components.

As the MRP's roles expand to include new technologies and standards, ASMIRT will continue to offer certification in these new areas to ensure that MRPs have the opportunity to offer patients the highest possible standard of treatment and practice.

