

**ARMSTRONG COUNTY MEMORIAL HOSPITAL
SCHOOL OF RADIOLOGIC TECHNOLOGY
POLICY AND PROCEDURE MANUAL**

Policy Title: Radiation Safety and Monitoring of Students	Policy Number: 54 Page 1 of 1
Original Date: 10/96	Revision Date: 5/99, 12/01, 5/02, 4/11, 4/16, 6/16, 6/17
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A radiation monitoring badge is issued to each student at the onset of their education. This badge should be worn at collar level, facing forward toward the radiation source, and outside the lead apron during all clinical assignments. It is suggested that monitoring badges be left in the student's locker at the end of each day for these badges are to monitor occupational radiation exposure only. If a badge is lost, a spare badge will be assigned to the student. It is the responsibility of each student to return the previous month's badge and receive a new badge at the beginning of each month. The previous month's monitoring device is returned to the dosimeter company monthly with the appropriate control monitor and exposure is determined.

Permanent records of all radiation exposure to the students are kept on file in the office of the hospital's radiation physicist (Radiation Safety Officer), as well as the program official's office. When the monthly radiation monitoring exposure reports are received by the educational coordinator from the radiation physicist after being reviewed by the Radiation Safety Officer, the readings are made known to the student. Each student must indicate their knowledge of their exposure by signing and dating Form #120 (Verification of Knowledge of Radiation Dosimetry Report) for each monthly report. If the Radiation Safety Officer determines that a monthly dosage is high, the physicist investigates, talks to the affected student, and the case is brought before the Radiation Safety committee. If the dosage exceeds the permissible monthly allowance, based on 125 mrems/quarter, the Radiation Safety Officer submits a report of this and his investigation to the Radiation Safety Committee. Recommendations from the Radiation Safety Officer will be followed.

Our department follows the ALARA principle at all times, which means maintaining radiation exposures to "*as low as reasonably achievable*". In support of this principle, no student is permitted, under any circumstance, to hold an image receptor or a patient during any radiographic procedure.

Personal radiation protective equipment is located in the Imaging Services department for use in all radiographic and fluoroscopy rooms, operating rooms, and for mobile imaging. Students are instructed at the onset of education, prior to clinical assignments, as to the proper use of this equipment. All personal radiation protective equipment is checked periodically by the Radiation Safety Officer to ensure the safety of all radiation workers, healthcare personnel, and the general public. The students **must** wear protective radiation apparel during all mobile and fluoroscopy procedures.