

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

Policy Title: Clinical Rotation	Policy Number: 16 Page 1 of 2
Original Date: 3/91	Revision Date: 5/96, 10/96, 6/08, 5/29/02, 1/03, 3/04, 7/04, 2/05, 6/08, 6/09, 6/10, 6/11, 11/11, 6/12, 5/14, 6/15, 6/17, 3/18, 6/18
Last Review Date: 6/18	

Students are assigned to the clinical area within the first week of education after a brief orientation. The student begins with observation of equipment operation and execution of examinations and procedures. However, the student is permitted to assist in the moving of patients, preparing the room, and changing image receptors. The student's knowledge and understanding should be enhanced through day to day observation and participation. Performance Appraisal Evaluations may be obtained weekly with a maximum of two per week.

Equitable clinical assignments are scheduled for all students during the two year educational process. Students are scheduled primarily Monday through Friday daylight shift. In order to enhance the students' critical thinking skills and develop a sense of responsibility, there will be minimal weekend and evening shift assignments.

Eight weeks of evenings (1:00 to 9:30 p.m.) will be assigned during the second year on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays when the student is in the clinical area. The first rotations will start toward the beginning of July (a maximum of two students per week is permissible but only one student may be scheduled).

Two full daylight weekends (7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.) will be assigned during the second year to familiarize the student with the atmosphere of weekends.

1. The first rotation will start toward the end of August (one student per weekend).
2. The second rotation will start during the month of January (one student per weekend).

This procedure acquaints the students with shift rotation and strengthens the skills needed to become a reliable and qualified technologist familiar with the various shifts of the workforce. These rotations allow the student to gain more self-confidence and knowledge in organizing the unscheduled patient workload, giving consideration to patient priorities and procedure time required.

Students are rotated through the radiography and fluoroscopy rooms. There is a registered technologist assigned to every room and the student is under the supervision of this technologist during their clinical rotation. As images are taken, the technologist and the student examine the radiographic images. An unacceptable radiograph is repeated after the student and technologist review it and the technologist has identified to the student why it is an undesirable image. The technologist must be in the room for any repeat radiographs the student must take.

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Students are scheduled in a particular room for several days at a time. This gives the student an opportunity to become familiar and comprehend the equipment and procedures performed in each of the rooms during consecutive assignments.

The student is assigned to the radiographic and fluoroscopic rooms, operating room, and portable radiography cases throughout the entire educational process. There is an assignment of three full days within one week to the Imaging Services office early on in the first year.

Students will also rotate through Armstrong Orthopedics Associates, a JRCERT approved clinical setting. The rotations will begin after a brief orientation during the first quarter.

Students have three one-week rotations through computed tomography starting the first quarter of the second year of education and a rotation consisting of three consecutive weeks starting during the second quarter. During the second year, students are scheduled in the following specialty areas for a week's rotation. These areas include film room, nuclear medicine, diagnostic medical sonography, magnetic resonance imaging, mammography, and radiation oncology. All room rotations and specialty area assignments have objectives that must be completed and submitted.

The mobile Positron Emission Tomography (PET) scanner and pain clinic are considered clinical observation sites. To acquaint the student with these areas, the student will be assigned to PET for one day and pain clinic for two days. As these are considered observation sites, the student will be there to observe only and will not have direct patient contact. Student summaries are required for these clinical observation sites. Summary guidelines are listed in Policy 52 (Clinical Observation Sites Summary Guidelines) in the student's Policy and Procedure Manual.

Second year students are assigned a rotation through the cardiopulmonary department in order to learn how to perform EKGs. This rotation consists of 2 mornings from 6:30 am to 12:00 pm. Students will also perform 2 hours in the afternoon in the Emergency Department triage area following one of their EKG assignments. This time allows the student to observe, practice, and become competent at obtaining vital signs on patients in the clinical setting. Objective sheets are to be completed and submitted for both of these areas.

The second year students start rotating through the interventional radiology department after a brief orientation in the first quarter of the second year. This orientation includes introduction to the rooms, equipment, and procedures.

Schedules are subject to change with notification.