

From: [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)
To: [Janet Wood](#)
Subject: FW: TDH MRT program
Date: Thursday, June 19, 2014 8:42:10 AM

From: Karen Farbiak [mailto:KAREN.FARBIAK@childrens.com]
Sent: Wednesday, June 18, 2014 5:51 PM
To: Sunset Advisory Commission
Cc: Karen Farbiak
Subject: TDH MRT program

To Whom It May Concern,

Please carefully consider the ramifications of discontinuing the Medical Radiologic Technologist program for Texas. As a registered technologist, I have personally had the opportunity to work next to a few non certified technologists. There is a dramatic difference in their knowledge base verses a registered technologist. I observed the difficulties that occurred for the non certified technologist and the patient. Many times the non certified technologist was not able to correct images that were non diagnostic due to their lack of understanding of the physics involved in medical imaging, a limited repertoire of positioning for imaging anatomy, and an incomplete knowledge in anatomy and physiology. This caused grave concerns among the staff and physicians that were caring for the patients at that facility. Many times, it was absolutely necessary for the registered technologists to repeat the examination that the non certified technologists performed. The technologists were released shortly after being hired because of their inability to consistently produce diagnostic images and for their lack of understanding of basic patient care.

It is imperative for the technologists to have a full understanding of radiobiology, radiology positioning, physics, and anatomy and physiology for them to aid the physicians in diagnosing patients. Allowing non certified technologists to be responsible for imaging patients leaves a gaping chasm of opportunity for malpractice due to misdiagnosis, an increase in repeated exams, and a rise in cancer cases due to disregard or ignorance of the effects of radiation on the human body. All of these issues increase the already skyrocketing cost of health care. One last thing that is important for consideration. Would you want an individual with six weeks of education, verses two to four years, to give your family member care that has profound impact on their diagnosis and their future health? We should all consider that we, or our precious family member, will one day need medical care that requires imaging. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Karen R. Farbiak, RT(R)

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