

**Arkansas Department of Health Radiation Control  
Medical Ionizing Radiation Licensure Committee (MIRLC)  
Minutes -Tuesday, January 09, 2024; 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.**

Committee members present via Teams were Lisa Rhoden (Chair), Shane David, Tracy McKnight, Adriane Travis, Sheila Randolph, Rogerich Paylor, M.D., Richard Nelson, M.D., and Allan Kirkland, M.D. Members not in attendance were Tracy McKnight. Also, in attendance were Chuck Thompson, Brian Nichols, Reginald Rogers, Laura Shue, S. Craig Smith, Bernard Bevill, Sharra Shavers, Adelia Oldenbroek, Dr. John Meadors, Summer Khairi, Daniel Smith, Kevin Bowen, Jason Johnson, Emmalee Shaw, Deborah Reaan, and Tiffany Young. This meeting was held virtually via Teams.

**Welcome and Introduction**

Ms. Lisa called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm. Adelia Oldenbroek took the roll. It was determined that there was a quorum, and the meeting proceeded.

**Minutes Review**

The minutes from the October 09, 2023, meeting was presented and reviewed. Dr. Paylor made a motion to accept the minutes as presented, Dr. Nelson seconded the motion. There were no objections and the motion passed.

**Old Business:**

**PA Topics of Discussion and Supervision of RTL licensees:**

Shane David declared that there were no current board appointment updates as it relates to the MIRLC.

**Diagnostic Mammography MD Present Requirement /information:**

During the recent MIRLC meeting, a motion was approved to create an ad hoc committee specifically focused on discussing diagnostic mammography. The chairperson was granted the authority to appoint members, both from the MIRLC and external individuals, to this ad hoc committee. The committee's primary objective is to address issues related to radiologists being present during diagnostic mammography.

The scope of the ad hoc committee is limited to discussions concerning radiologists being present during diagnostic mammography. Any recommendations it may propose will be submitted to the Department. These recommendations aim to bring about changes in the rules governing the Arkansas Rules for Control of Sources of Ionizing Radiation. However, the ad hoc committee has not been fully formed yet, and a timetable for its meetings has not been established.

Meetings of the ad hoc committee will be conducted via Teams, recorded, and made available to the public. While the committee is still in the process of making appointments, no meetings have taken place as of now.

**Follow Up:**

**Emmalee Shaw / Temporary License Extension Request, RTLTL- 0822181:**

As a result of the October 2023 meeting, a provisional Letter was sent out October 16, 2023, to extend her temporary licenses. Rogerich Paylor had made a motion for a 90-day extension pursuant to registration and/or provide proof of either passing the examination or registration date that would be scheduled for her to take the exam. Adriane Travis seconded the motion. There were no objections and the motion passed. (See New Business below.)

**New Business:**

**PET/CT Licensure, Mercy Hospital Fort Smith, HS00319**

Representative from Mercy Medical Center in Fort Smith have raised concerns regarding the use of PET/CT and the licensing of technologists to operate it. The Department currently licenses individuals for X-ray radiography, which includes CT (Computed Tomography), and for nuclear medicine, which includes PET scanning. Due to advancements in medical technology, PET/CT has become a significant diagnostic tool, requiring technologists to have both nuclear medicine and CT training plus national certification.

To address this, the Department established a temporary PET/CT cross-training process allowing technologists a 24-month period, extendable by another two years, to gain experience and prepare for a national PET/CT certification exam. Currently, there are 11 temporary PET/CT licensees and 58 active CT licensees.

Historically, nuclear medicine technologists have been permitted to perform non-diagnostic PET/CT scans without a PET/CT license, based on earlier MIRLC guidance. However, Mercy Medical Center is starting a new cardiology PET/CT program where they claim the CT scan portion is solely for mapping, not diagnostic scanning. This raises the question of whether a PET/CT license or temporary PET/CT license is necessary for their nuclear medicine technologists.

The issue of whether mapping requires a PET/CT license or is considered diagnostic testing, was brought before the MIRLC for discussion and a decision. Representatives from Mercy Medical provided more detailed insights into the matter. After in-depth discussions, Dr. Richard Nelson made a motion that, the nuclear Medicine technologist performing PET scans acquiring CT images for attenuation, correction and mapping purposes do not need to obtain a dedicated PET/CT certification to perform those studies. Paul Bruce second the motion. There were no objections and the motion passed.

**Committee Financial Interest Statements:**

**January 31, 2024, the Committee Financial Interest statements are due.**

**RTL Program Manager Status**

Mr. Bevill introduced the new hire for the RTL Program Manager position, Sharra Shavers.

**Emmalee Shaw Temporary License Extension Request, RTLTL 0822181**

Ms. Shaw requested a one-year extension of her temporary license. Shane David suggested we offer Ms. Hall a provisional extension. After the discussion Shane David made a motion for Ms. Shaw to extend her temporary licenses for 90 days. The motion was passed unanimously by the Medical Ionizing Radiation Licensure Committee. She is to report back to the MIRLC during its April 2024 meeting as to her progress in scheduling her ARRT test.

**Shelly Kern, RTL01-0828180**

Ms. Kern's ARRT 's Certification and Registration have been revoked. This resulted in an administrative hearing. Ms. Kern had been informed of the administrative hearing process. Information from the ARRT was presented showing that her ARRT Registration has been revoked. After review of the facts presented and discussed, Sheila Randolph made a motion to revoke Ms. Kern's Arkansas Radiologic Technology License. Dr. Paylor made the motion to approve the permanent revocation of the licensure for Shelly Kern. Dr. Nelson seconded that motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Next Meeting Scheduled**

The next two Quarterly Medical Ionizing Radiation Licensure Committee meetings are set for April 9, 2024, at 3:00 p.m. and July 9, 2024, at 3:00 p.m.

**Meeting Termination**

The meeting ended at 4:30 p.m. with a motion from Shane David and seconded by Richard Nelson. The motion passed.