

MRVector

Newsletter of the:

American Registry of Magnetic Resonance Imaging Technologists

Phone: 718-347-8690 Fax: 718-347-8691 E-mail: RMRIT@msn.com Web page: www.armrit.org

Web Store: RMRIT.MYAIA.COM

Spring / Summer 2003

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AMERICAN REGISTRY of MRI TECHNOLOGISTS – ARMRIT

As of March 6, 2003 the RMRIT is now officially known as the ARMRIT. Although they can be used interchangeably, assuming the name American makes a statement that describes the national presence of our membership.

The Registry has sent out new certificates to reflect the name change throughout the Spring and Summer months. ID cards will not be updated until the renewal period for 2004.

www.armrit.org

Along with the name change to American Registry of Magnetic Resonance Imaging Technologists – ARMRIT, the Registry webpage has been updated. As of April 1, 2003, the new webpage address is: www.armrit.org.

The webpage highlights the ARMRIT as a national Professional Organization by using the suffix **.org** instead of **.com**.

Included is the Board of Directs, examination committee, code of ethics, mission statement, and ARMRIT

approved MRI schools and the quarterly newsletter the MRVector.

CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION - CME POLICY FOR MEMBERS. Registry Active Members:

Notified upon renewal for 1999, which began on October 15, 1998, all certified members were alerted that to renew their membership and certified status for the year 2000 and subsequent years, each member must submit evidence of six (6) CME credits in MRI Technology as awarded by the ASRT, ACCME or other qualified CME granting organization.

New Certified Members:

New members are **not** required to submit evidence of CME credits until their third year of membership renewal. For example, if a member passed the examination during the calendar year of 2003, they will **not** be required to prove CME credits until the calendar year of 2006 for renewal of 2007.

ONE MRI STUDENT-ONE MRI CLINICAL SITE

MRI Schools whose graduates are approved as eligible to sit for the ARMRIT MRI Technologist examination are approved based on a **one student per MRI site per eight (8) hour shift**. MRI school tuition for a one-year or two-year full time program averages \$18,000 with the (over)

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clinical practicum component comprising as much as 75% of the entire program.

The proper MRI Clinical Instructor / Student ratio is one to one. For example if a MRI site runs only an 8-4pm shift there should be only one student at this site. If the MRI site runs an 8-4pm and a 12-8pm or 2-10pm shift then there can be two students at this site, one per shift.

As important as the theoretical components of an MRI program are, for a student to get the full benefit of the quality education they have invested in, this policy ensures they get their 'educational monies worth'.

NEW ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

As the ARMRIT progresses, so does MRI education. Of course, the focus should always be education in any profession. Now that MRI technology is going into its third decade as a clinical imaging technique, it only makes sense that more formal MRI educational programs with clinical training become available.

The Registry has throughout its existence molded the eligibility requirements to meet realistic and fair standards. To date there are three basic eligibility requirements. The first is that of a medical cross-trainer with allied health education and experience and at least one-thousand hours of MRI clinical experience. The second is based on the equivalency clause which requires at least four-years full-time experience (approx. 6,240 hours). Both of the above criteria require a notarized letter from the medical director or physician reading the candidates

MRI studies stating that the candidate is competent in MRI technology. The third and newest requirement is to graduate from an ARMRIT approved MRI Technologist training program.

The goal is eventually to phase out the first two requirements as more and more MRI programs become available. As in all other medical imaging specialties, such as Nuclear Medicine, Ultrasonography, or Radiography, MRI requires formal education with clinical training that will lead to a career in the specialty of MRI Technology.

Let us hear from you on this subject. We'd like to hear your opinion on the time-frame, MRI program content and length, and minimum clinical practicum hours. Your ideas and opinions are always important to the ARMRIT.

ARE YOU UP-TO-DATE WITH THE RMRIT?

Update your information with the Registry. Fill out the area below and fax it to the ARMRIT office as soon as possible.

Name: _____

Member Number: _____

Current Address: _____

New Phone Number: _____

Employer Name and Address: _____

New Equipment Experience: _____