COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Diagnostic Accreditation Program

ACCREDITATION STANDARDS

Glossary

Diagnostic Accreditation Program
College of Physicians and Surgeons of British Columbia
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Glossary

Term	Definition	References
acceptance testing	A process to verify compliance with the performance specifications of the equipment as written in the purchase contract. It also verifies that the equipment performance meets the manufacturer's specifications and complies with federal and provincial or territorial regulations. Acceptance testing is to be performed prior to any clinical use of the equipment. It is recommended that acceptance testing be performed by, or under the supervision of, a medical physicist, with in-depth knowledge of the particular type of equipment and the relevant regulations.	Safety Code 35
accreditation	The procedure by which an authoritative body gives formal recognition that an organization is competent to carry out specific tasks.	ISO 15189:2012
addendum report	Supplementary comments, corrections, results, and text included following a previously released diagnostic service report, to correct or expand on the original report.	DAP
adverse events	Unintended injuries or complications that are caused by the management of a patient/service user's care, rather than by the underlying disease. Such complications can lead to death, disability or a prolonged hospital stay.	ISQua – 5th edition
audit	A systematic, independent, documented process for obtaining evidence and evaluating it objectively to determine the extent to which criteria are fulfilled.	ISO 9000 2015
authorized individual	A physician or other designated health professional defined under relevant legislation as having the ability to request diagnostic imaging examinations.	DAP
BMC	Bone mineral content	ISCD – 5th edition

Term	Definition	References
BMD	Bone mineral density	ISCD – Official Positions
clinical governance	The framework through which medical director, governing body and staff are accountable for delivery of high quality and safe health care.	DAP
competence	The demonstrated ability to apply knowledge and skills to achieve intended results.	ISO 15189:2022 3.5
competency assessment	Evaluating a person's ability to perform all aspects of a task, process or procedure.	DAP
complaint	The expression of dissatisfaction by any person or organization to a service relating to the activities or results of that service, where a response is expected.	ISO 15189:2022 3.6
confidentiality	The right of individuals to keep information about themselves from being disclosed.	ISQua – 5th edition

Term	Definition	References
conflicts of interest	A conflict of interest occurs when a health care provider's personal, business, commercial, political, academic or financial interests, or the interests of the health-care provider's family or friends, interfere with the health-care provider's professional responsibilities or a client's best interests. A conflict of interest may exist whether or not a health-care provider is actually influenced by the competing interest. The conflict of interest may affect health-care provider in any practice setting. A conflict of interest can be actual, potential or perceived and may or may not lead to negative outcomes. An actual conflict of interest is one that has already occurred or currently exists. A potential conflict of interest is one that could possibly develop in the future. A perceived conflict of interest occurs when others perceive that a conflict of interest may influence a nurse's judgment.	BCCNM – Conflict of Interest Practice Standard
consent	Consent is the voluntary agreement to some act or purpose made by a capable individual. Clients and their substitute decision makers have the legal right to agree to, refuse or revoke permission for proposed care, service, treatment or research provided by a health care professional, at anytime.	BCCNM – Consent Practice Standard
controlled areas	For medical X-ray imaging facilities, controlled areas are typically in the immediate areas where X-ray equipment is used such as the procedure room and X-ray control booths. The workers in these areas are primarily equipment operators such as radiologists and radiation technologists who are trained in the proper use of the equipment and in radiation protection.	Safety Code 35
corporate governance	The system of responsibilities, processes and structures by which the service is directed and controlled.	DAP

Term	Definition	References
corrected report	Report that is sent when an originally reported result or information in the report has been subsequently found to be incorrect such that a new report is issued. Significant differences in preliminary reports and subsequent reports should be treated as corrected reports.	DAP
corrective action	Action taken to eliminate the cause(s) of nonconformities. Note: Corrective action is usually taken in response to nonconformity or an identified problem noted in audits or during the accreditation process.	DAP
credentialing	Credentialing is a process that involves the collection, verification and assessment of information regarding the education, training, experience and ability of an individual physician to perform a requested privilege. In British Columbia physicians must have the requisite credentials as outlined in the Provincial Privileging Dictionaries. Refer to http://bcmqi.ca/privileging-dictionaries.	DAP
critical incident	A critical incident is defined as an incident resulting in serious harm (loss of life, limb, or vital organ) to the patient, or the significant risk thereof. Incidents are considered critical when there is an evident need for immediate investigation and response. The investigation is designed to identify contributing factors and the response includes actions to reduce the likelihood of recurrence.	RCPS Canada - Canadian Patient Safety Dictionary
critical medical equipment/devices	Medical equipment/devices that enter sterile tissues, including the vascular system (e.g., biopsy forceps, foot care equipment, dental hand pieces, etc.). Critical medical equipment/devices present a high risk of infection if the equipment/device is contaminated with microorganisms, including bacterial spores. Reprocessing critical equipment/devices involves meticulous cleaning followed by sterilization.	IPAC Canada

Term	Definition	References
decontamination	The process of cleaning, followed by the inactivation of microorganisms, in order to render an object safe for handling.	PICNET - Best Practice Guidelines For Cleaning, Disinfection and Sterilization of Critical and Semi-critical Medical Devices
defined interval	A documented period of time between events.	MW, DAP
delegation of medical acts	The delegation of medical acts describes when a physician authorizes a non-regulated individual(s) to perform an activity within the scope of practice of a physician.	DAP
detergent	A synthetic cleansing agent that can emulsify oil and suspend soil. A detergent contains surfactants that do not precipitate in hard water and may also contain protease enzymes and whitening agents.	PICNET - Best Practice Guidelines For Cleaning, Disinfection and Sterilization of Critical and Semi-critical Medical Devices

Term	Definition	References
displays	Displays refers to computer monitors utilized in medical imaging, displays are either primary (diagnostic, mammography) or secondary (modality, interventional, clinical specialist) or other. Diagnostic displays refer to all displays used for the primary interpretation of radiography, fluoroscopy, computed tomography, magnetic resonance, ultrasound, echocardiography, and nuclear medicine imaging. Mammography displays refer to all displays used for the primary interpretation of mammography imaging. Modality displays refer to a designated display(s) utilized by technologists to make image quality decisions (e.g. repeat imaging prior to patient discharge), create image reconstructions, and perform advanced post processing. Interventional displays refer to all displays used for guidance, navigation or reference during the performance of interventional procedures. Clinical specialist displays refers to all secondary displays which physicians review patient images for the purpose of making a health-care management decision, excluding primary interpretation.	DAP
diagnostic reference levels (DRLs)	The purpose of diagnostic reference levels, DRLs is to promote a better control of patient exposures to X-rays. This control must be related to the clinical purpose of the examination. DRLs must not be seen as limits but instead as guidance to optimize doses during procedures. DRLs are based on typical examinations of standardized patient or phantom sizes, and for a broad type of equipment. While it is expected that facilities should be able to attain these levels when performing procedures using good methodologies, it is not expected that all patients should receive these dose levels but that the average of the patient population should.	Safety Code 35

Term	Definition	References
digital imaging and communication in medicine (DICOM)	Digital Imaging and Communications in Medicine (DICOM) is the standard for the communication and management of medical imaging information and related data.	DICOM-NEMA
disinfectant	A chemical agent that kills most disease-producing microorganism, but not necessarily bacterial spores. Disinfectants are applied only to inanimate objects. Some products combine a cleaner with a disinfectant.	PICNET - Best Practice Guidelines For Cleaning, Disinfection and Sterilization of Critical and Semi-critical Medical Devices
document control system	Document control involves managing and implementing processes to ensure the accuracy and appropriate use of documents. The term "document" in this context refers to paper or electronic media that provides the service with guidance or instructions, including, but not limited to, policy statements, procedures and related job aids, instructions for use, protocols, procedures, manuals, and standard operating procedures. Document management and document control incorporates the approval, distribution, identification and routine review of documents.	DAP
documented procedure	The specified way to carry out an activity or a process that is documented, implemented and maintained. The requirement for a documented procedure may be addressed in a single document or by more than one document.	ISO 15189:2012
dose-length product (DLP)	A measurable dose indicator of radiation exposure for a complete CT examination. The effective dose or the organ dose delivered to a patient in a CT examination can be estimated and also used to establish diagnostic reference levels.	Safety Code 35
efficacy	The ability to produce a desired result or effect.	MW

Term	Definition	References
ethics	Acknowledged set of principles which guide professional and moral conduct.	ISQua – 5th edition
expedited	An accelerated process. Note: For the purpose of the accreditation, there are three categories of requests and examinations: routine; urgent; and stat. Expedited requests and examinations include those requested as urgent or stat.	DAP
governance	The way that an organization is controlled by the people who run it.	MW
governing body	The title "governing body" is the term defined by the DAP as the group or individual which holds the ultimate authority and responsibility to oversee the service. The governing body may be a board of directors, a council, sole proprietor or another decision-making body.	DAP
health level 7 (HL7)	HL7 is a framework (and related standards) for the exchange, integration, sharing, and retrieval of electronic health information. These standards define how information is packaged and communicated from one party to another, setting the language, structure and data types required for seamless integration between systems. HL7 standards support clinical practice and the management, delivery, and evaluation of health services, and are recognized as the most commonly used in the world.	HL7 International
health professionals	Medical, nursing or allied health professional staff who provide clinical treatment and care to clients, having membership of the appropriate professional body and, where required, having completed and maintained registration or certification from a statutory authority.	ISQua – 5th edition

Term	Definition	References
high-level disinfection	A process capable of killing vegetative bacteria, mycobacteria including Mycobacterium tuberculosis, fungi, and lipid and non-lipid viruses, as well as some, but not necessarily high numbers of, bacterial spores. High-level disinfection is considered to be the minimum level of disinfection required for semi-critical medical devices. Medical devices shall be thoroughly cleaned prior to high-level disinfection. The appropriate type of high-level disinfectant must be selected in accordance with the medical device and HLD MIFU.	DAP
HL7 FHIR	FHIR (Fast Health Interoperability Resources) is an HL7 specification for Healthcare Interoperability.	HL7 International
hospital information system (HIS)	Hospital information system (HIS) is an information system designed to manage all aspects of hospital operations.	DAP
human resources	The personnel requirements of the organization.	ISQua – 5th edition
immediate action	Action taken at the time of nonconformity to mitigate the immediate effects.	DAP
incidents	Incident are events, processes, practices, or outcomes that are noteworthy by virtue of the hazards they create for, or the harms they cause, patients. Incident reporting systems are meant to capture any and all incidents that are worthy of reporting.	RCPS Canada - Canadian Patient Safety Dictionary
indicator	Performance measurement tool, screen or flag that is used as a guide to monitor, evaluate and improve the quality of services. Indicators relate to structure, process and outcomes.	DAP

Term	Definition	References
impartiality	The objectivity with regard to the outcome of tasks performed by the service. Objectivity can be understood as freedom from bias or freedom from conflicts of interest. Other terms that are useful in conveying the element of impartiality include "independence," "lack of prejudice," "neutrality," "fairness," "open-mindedness," "even-handedness," "detachment," "balance."	ISO 15189:2022 3.11
intrauterine	Refers to the administration of medications/contrast/medical devices within the uterus.	DAP
intravenous	Refers to the administration of medications/contrast/medical devices within the veins.	DAP
intravesical	Refers to the administration of medications/contrast/medical devices within the bladder.	DAP
integrating the healthcare enterprise (IHE)	An initiative by health-care professionals and industry to improve the way computer systems in health care share information. IHE promotes the coordinated use of established standards such as DICOM and HL7 to address specific clinical needs in support of optimal patient care.	IHE
least significant change (LSC)	Least significant change, or LSC, is the least amount of BMD change that can be considered statistically significant. The ISCD recommends calculating this for a 95% confidence level, which is done by multiplying the precision error by 2.77.	ISCD - Precision Assessment & Calculator FAQs

Term	Definition	References
level 1 magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) personnel	Those who have passed minimal safety educational efforts to ensure their own safety as they work within zone III are referred to as Level 1 MRI personnel. Level 1 MRI personnel are also explicitly permitted to be responsible for accompanying non-MRI personnel into and throughout zone III, excluding zone IV.	ACR Manual on MR Safety - 2020
level 2 magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) personnel	Those who have been more extensively trained and educated in the broader aspects of MRI safety issues (e.g. MRI technologists), including, for example, issues related to the potential for thermal loading or burns and direct neuromuscular excitation from rapidly changing gradients, are referred to as level 2 MRI personnel. It is understood that the medical leader will have the necessary education and experience in MRI safety to qualify as level 2 MRI personnel.	ACR Manual on MR Safety - 2020
magnetic field strength	Is measured in units of gauss (G) and Tesla (T). One Tesla is equal to 10,000 gauss. The main magnetic field of a 1.5 T magnet is about 30,000 times the strength of the earth's magnetic field. The main magnetic field of a 3T system is 60,000 times the earth's magnetic field. The strength of electromagnets used to pick up cars in junk yards is about the field strength of MRI systems with field strengths from 1.5 to 2.0T.	ACR Manual on MR Safety - 2020
magnetic resonance (MR)	Refers to the resonance phenomenon resulting in the absorption and/or emission of electromagnetic energy by nuclei or electrons in a static magnetic field, after excitation by a suitable radio frequency (RF) magnetic field.	ACR Manual on MR Safety - 2020

Term	Definition	References
magnetic resonance (MR) conditional	Is used for items have been demonstrated to pose no known hazards in a specified MRI environment with specified conditions of use. The safety of "MR conditional" items must be verified with the specific scanner and MRI environment in which they will be used. Objects with an "MR conditional" rating are affixed with a triangular yellow MR conditional label prior to being taken into the scan room/Zone IV.	ACR Manual on MR Safety - 2020
magnetic resonance (MR) safe	Is used for items that pose no known hazard in all MRI environments. Items which are wholly nonmetallic are identified with a square green "MR safe" label.	ACR Manual on MR Safety - 2020
magnetic resonance (MR) unsafe	Is used for items which are clearly ferromagnetic, identified as "MR unsafe," and labeled appropriately with the corresponding round red label with a slash through it. Any MR unsafe items are clearly labeled to ensure they are not taken into the room.	ACR Manual on MR Safety - 2020
magnetic resonance imaging (MRI)	The use of magnetic resonance to create images of objects such as the body. Currently, this primarily involves imaging the distribution of mobile hydrogen nuclei (protons) in the body. In literature the terms MR and MRI are often used interchangeably; however, in the context of these accreditation standards the term MRI is used and the term MR is only used when referring to the terminology applied to implants and devices relative to the MRI environment (e.g. MR safe, MR conditional, and MR unsafe).	ACR Manual on MR Safety - 2020
magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) environment	Refers to the general and immediate areas associated with the MRI scanner. In particular, this refers to the area within the 5 gauss line. The MRI environment includes anywhere within the MRI procedure room, including the center of the bore of the MRI scanner.	ACR Manual on MR Safety - 2020

Term	Definition	References
magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) personnel and non-MRI personnel	MRI personnel and non-MRI personnel are used to define individuals who may come in contact with the magnetic field. This terminology will assist with access restrictions and controls. All individuals working within at least zone III have documentation verifying successful completion of at least one of the MRI safety live lectures or prerecorded presentations approved by the MRI medical leader. Attendance should be repeated at least annually, and appropriate documentation should be provided to confirm these ongoing educational efforts. Non-MRI personnel are accompanied by, or under the immediate supervision of and in visual or verbal contact with, one specifically identified level 2 MRI personnel for the entirety of their duration within zone III or zone IV restricted regions. However, it is acceptable to have non-MRI personnel in a changing room or restroom in Zone III without visual contact as long as the personnel and the patient can communicate verbally with each other.	ACR Manual on MR Safety - 2020
magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) safety officer	An MRI safety officer is a level 2 MRI staff member that manages the magnetic safety program of the facility. The officer's responsibilities include educating personnel, monitoring equipment performance, reviewing and updating safety procedures and communicating safety information to the appropriate staff.	ACR Manual on MR Safety - 2020
manufacturer's instruction for use (MIFU)	The written directions provided by the manufacturer or distributor of a product that contain the necessary information for the safe and effective use of the product, device or equipment.	DAP
medical director	Individual with the competence and delegated responsibility for the delivery and all matters pertaining to procedures and medical care in the service.	College Bylaws

Term	Definition	References
medical devices	A medical device is any instrument or component used to treat, diagnose or prevent a disease or abnormal physical condition.	Health Canada - Medical Devices Regulations
medical image management and processing systems (MIMPS)	Medical image management and processing systems (MIMPS) is a new term to describe picture archiving and communication systems (PACS). PACS/MIMPS store and transport medical images.	DAP
medical peer review	Medical peer review is a systematic process to continuously improve patient safety and quality. Medical peer review contributes to quality improvement by providing feedback to individuals and sharing learning among peers. It is a proactive tool for identifying and tracking learning from clinical reviews, including discrepancies, near misses, and errors during all stages of the diagnostic process. Peer review can be an internal process undertaken by peers within the organization, or a process external to the organization utilizing outside peers.	DAP
mission	A broad written statement in which the organization states what it does and why it exists. The mission sets apart one organization from another.	ISQua – 5th edition
moderate sedation	Moderate sedation is commonly referred to as conscious sedation.**Error! Bookmark not defined.**	DAP
most responsible physician	The most responsible physician is the physician who is responsible for the overall management of a patient's care, treatment and or diagnosis until such responsibility is transferred to another health-care practitioner. The most responsible physician may not necessarily be the only physician involved in the care of the patient.	DAP

Term	Definition	References
near miss	An incident that was prevented from occurring due to timely intervention or chance that did not result in injury, illness, or damage but had the potential to do so.	ISQua – 5th edition
nonconformity	The nonfulfillment of a requirement. Synonyms: accident, adverse event, error, event, incident, critical incident, occurrence, nonconformance	ISO 15189:2012
operational plan	A plan which clearly defines the actions that the organization will take within a defined timeframe to deliver its stated objectives and enable the organization to meet its longer-term strategic objectives. The operational plan provides detailed information about how the organization will achieve its stated objectives and identifies what activities must be undertaken; who has responsibility for undertaking each of the stated activities; the timeframes in which the activities must be completed; and the resources (financial, human and other) required to achieve the identified activities.	ISQua – 5th edition
picture archiving and communication systems (PACS)	Picture archiving and communication systems, PACS, store and transport medical images.	DAP
patient identifiers	Information directly associated with an individual that reliably identifies the individual as the person for whom the service or treatment is intended. Acceptable identifiers may include the individual's first and last name, an assigned identification number, or other person-specific identifiers.	The Joint Commission Standards
performance evaluation	The continuous process by which a manager appraisal and a staff member review the staff member's performance, set performance goals, and evaluate progress towards these goals.	ISQua – 5th edition

Term	Definition	References
personnel	People working or operating within a section, department, area or organization. Personnel include staff, volunteers, contractors, visitors and others.	DAP
policy	A written operational statement that formalizes the approach to tasks that is consistent with the organizational objectives.	ISQua – 5th edition
preliminary report	A preliminary report precedes the final report and contains limited information. Preliminary reports may be time sensitive and are not expected to contain all the reportable findings. A preliminary report may not have the benefit of prior imaging studies and/or reports and may be based upon incomplete information due to evolving clinical circumstances. Nevertheless, clinical decision making may be based on this report due to the need for immediate patient management. The situations that may require preliminary reports may include, but are not limited to, interpretations provided to emergency and surgical departments and critical care units, or initial readings provided by trainees.	DAP
preventive action	A proactive process for identifying opportunities for improvement rather than a reaction to identified problems.	DAP
primary protective barriers	Primary protective barriers provide shielding from the direct X-ray beam and therefore must be placed in such an orientation as to intersect the X-ray beam.	Safety Code 35
procedure	A written set of instructions conveying the approved and recommended steps for a particular act or series of acts; or the treatment or care of a patient/service user in a clinical or social care setting.	ISQua – 5th edition
process	A set of interrelated or interacting activities which transform inputs into outputs.	ISO 15189:2012

Term	Definition	References
protocol	A set of required actions which outlines all necessary information to perform a clinical examination or manage a clinical situation.	DAP
qualitative	Data and information expressed with descriptions and narratives, a method that investigates the experience of users through observation and interviews. In terms of quality control testing of displays, a qualitative evaluation of displays is undertaken by obtaining an observation (i.e. user observes a display test pattern).	DAP
quality	The degree to which a set of inherent characteristics fulfils requirements. Note: The term "quality" can be used with adjectives such as poor, good or excellent "inherent," as opposed to "assigned," means existing in something, especially as a permanent characteristic.	ISO 15189:2012
quality indicator	The measure of the degree to which a large number of characteristics of an object fulfils requirements. Measure can be expressed, for example, as % yield (% within specified requirements), % defects (% outside specified requirements), defects per million occasions (DPMO) or on the Six Sigma scale. Quality indicators can measure how well an organization meets the needs and requirements of users and the quality of all operational processes.	ISO 15189:2022 3.26
quality control testing	Quality control testing is the routine verification of equipment performance, integrity, stability and safety.	DAP

Term	Definition	References
quality improvement	Quality improvement (QI) is a proven, effective way to improve care for patients, residents and clients, and to improve practice for staff. In the healthcare system, there are always opportunities to optimize, streamline, develop and test processes, and QI should be a continuous process and an integral part of everyone's work, regardless of role or position within the organization.	Health Quality Ontario – Quality Improvement Guide
quality improvement plan	A plan that outlines quality improvement initiatives including the proposed actions, timelines and responsible individual(s).	ISQua – 5th edition
quality management system	A management system to direct and control an organization with regard to quality. Note: This relates to general management activities, the provision and management of resources, the pre-examination, examination and post-examination processes and evaluation and continual improvement.	ISO 15189:2012
quality objective	A quality-related result that you intend to achieve. Something sought, or aimed for, related to quality. Note: Quality objectives are generally based on the laboratory's quality policy. Quality objectives are generally specified for relevant functions and levels in the organization.	ISO 9000
quantitative	Data and information that is expressed in numbers and statistics, a method that investigates phenomena with measures. In terms of quality control testing of displays, a quantitative evaluation of displays is undertaken by obtaining a measurement (i.e. photometer measurements of illuminance).	DAP
radiation safety officer (RSO)	The title commonly assigned to a radiation safety specialist who routinely manages a facility's radiation protection program.	Safety Code 35

Term	Definition	References
refurbished	The modification of a device (cleaning, repairing, replacing parts, and changing aesthetics) that does not significantly change the device's performance or intended use.	DAP
reprocessing	The steps performed to prepare used medical equipment devices for use (e.g. cleaning, disinfection (LLD, ILD or HLD) or sterilization).	PICNET - Best Practice Guidelines For Cleaning, Disinfection and Sterilization of Critical and Semi-critical Medical Devices
responsible user	The responsible user's main role is to monitor and manage the radiation safety program of the facility including personnel requirements, equipment performance and safety procedures and to communicate program information with the appropriate staff.	Safety Code 35
results (outcomes)	The outputs, values, reports and interpretations of tests, procedures or examinations.	DAP
request	A written, electronic or verbal order for an examination or product provided by the service.	DAP
rights	Something that can be claimed as justly, fairly, legally or morally one's own. A formal description of the services that clients can expect and demand from an organization.	DAP
radiology information system (RIS)	Radiology information system (RIS) is a medical imaging-specific software application for creating, storing and sharing medical imaging data.	DAP
risk	The probability of danger, loss or injury.	ISQua – 5th edition

Term	Definition	References
risk management	A systematic process of identifying, assessing and taking action to prevent or manage clinical, administrative, property and occupational health and safety risks in the organization.	ISQua – 5th edition
risk management framework	A set of components that provide the foundations and organizational arrangements for designing, implementing, monitoring, reviewing and continually improving risk management throughout the organization.	ISQua – 5th edition
safety	The degree to which the potential risk and unintended results are avoided or minimized.	ISQua – 5th edition
scope	The range and type of services offered by the organization and any conditions or limits to service coverage.	ISQua – 5th edition
secondary protective barriers	Required to provide shielding from scattered and leakage X-rays.	Safety Code 35
semi-critical medical equipment/device	Medical equipment/device that comes in contact with nonintact skin or mucous membranes but ordinarily does not penetrate them (e.g., respiratory therapy equipment, transrectal probes, and specula).	IPAC Canada

Term	Definition	References
Spaulding classification system	The Spaulding classification system defines that the risk of infection associated with the intended use of the medical device which determines the level of disinfection or sterilization required as part of device reprocessing. There are 3 risk categories, non-critical, semi-critical and critical. Non-critical: Medical devices which are only in contact with intact skin are non-critical. Intact skin is completely healthy and does not have open cuts, punctures, abrasions, dermatitis, etc. *Examples: Surface/external on intact skin examinations.* Semi-critical: Medical devices which are in contact with non-intact skin and or mucous membranes are semi-critical. Non-intact skin refers to skin which has any cuts, punctures, abrasions, dermatitis, etc. Mucous membranes refer to surfaces of the body that open to the external environment. *Examples: Transvaginal and non-intact skin examinations.* Critical: Medical devices which are placed into or in contact with sterile cavities/tissues or the vascular system are critical. *Examples: Intraoperative examinations where the medical devices is in contact with the sterile field.*	PICNET - Best Practice Guidelines For Cleaning, Disinfection and Sterilization of Critical and Semi-critical Medical Devices
specific absorption rate (SAR)	A measure of energy deposited by an RF field in a given mass of tissue. SAR is established by the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) and the Food and Drug Administration to not exceed 8 watts per kg (W/kg) of tissue for any five-minute period or 4 W/kg for a whole body averaged over 15 minutes. Unregulated absorption can lead to injury. The heating potential is notably higher and more significant at higher field strengths than at lower fields. The doubling of the field strength from 1.5T to 3T leads to a quadrupling of the SAR.	ACR Manual on MR Safety - 2020
staff	Employees of the organization including temporary and permanent staff.	ISQua – 5th edition

Term	Definition	References
sterilization	The level of reprocessing required when processing critical medical equipment/devices. Sterilization results in the destruction of all forms of microbial life including bacteria, viruses, spores and fungi. Equipment/devices shall be cleaned thoroughly before effective sterilization can take place.	IPAC Canada
strategic plan	A formalized plan that establishes the organization's overall goals.	ISQua – 5th edition
T-score	The number of standard deviations above (+) or below (-) the mean peak density.	CAR – BD Reporting
uncontrolled areas	Those occupied by individuals such as patients, visitors to the facility, and employees who do not work routinely with or around radiation sources. Uncontrolled areas are subject to the limit of 1 mSv per year.	Safety code 35
universal protocol	A process incorporating verification, site marking and a time out to reduce the risk to patients undergoing invasive procedures.	DAP
user (of diagnostic services)	Physicians and others who order diagnostic examinations and/or receive diagnostic information and reports from diagnostic facilities. Synonyms: authorized requestor, ordering physician, clinical personnel	DAP
values	Principles, beliefs or statements of philosophy that guide behaviour, which may include social or ethical issues.	ISQua – 5th edition

Term	Definition	References
zone	The term used to conceptually divide the MRI service into four safety regions. Of critical importance is determining where hazards associated with the region in which free access by unscreened non-MRI staff or ferromagnetic objects or equipment can result in serious injury. Injury may occur as a result of the interaction between the individual or equipment and the immediate peripheral area of the MRI scan room. The four-zone concept provides for progressive restrictions in access to the MRI scanner.	ACR Manual on MR Safety - 2020
zone I	This region includes all areas that are freely accessible to the general public. This area is typically outside the MRI environment itself and is the area through which patients, health-care personnel, and other employees of the MRI site access the MRI environment.	ACR Manual on MR Safety - 2020
zone II	This area is the interface between the publicly accessible, uncontrolled zone I and the strictly controlled zones III and IV. Typically, patients are greeted in zone II and are not free to move throughout zone II at will, but are rather under the supervision of MRI personnel. It is in zone II that the answers to MRI screening questions, patient histories, etc. are typically obtained.	ACR Manual on MR Safety - 2020
zone III	This area is the region in which free access by unscreened non-MRI personnel or ferromagnetic objects or equipment can result in serious injury or death as a result of interactions between the individuals or equipment and the MRI scanner's particular environment. These interactions include, but are not limited to, those involving the MRI scanner's static and time-varying magnetic fields. Specifically identified MRI personnel are to be charged with ensuring that MRI safe requirements are strictly adhered to for the safety of the patients and other non-MRI personnel, the health-care personnel, and the equipment itself.	ACR Manual on MR Safety - 2020

Term	Definition	References
zone IV	This area is synonymous with the MRI scanner magnet room itself, that is, the physical confines of the room within which the MRI scanner is located. Zone IV, by definition, will always be located within zone III, as it is the MRI magnet and its associated magnetic field that generates the existence of zone IV.	ACR Manual on MR Safety - 2020
Z-score	The number of standard deviations above (+) or below (-) the mean density for an individual of that age and gender.	CAR – BD Reporting

References

Abbreviation	Reference
ACR Manual on MR Safety - 2020	American College of Radiology, Committee on MR Safety. ACR guidance document on MR safe practices: Updates and critical information 2019. Journal of Magnetic Resonance Imaging. 2020 Feb;51(2):331-338. Available from: https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/jmri.26880
BCCNM – Conflict of Interest Practice Standard	British Columbia College of Nurses and Midwives. "Conflict of Interest." https://www.bccnm.ca/RPN/PracticeStandards/Pages/conflictofinterest.aspx. Accessed 10/30/2024.
CAR – BD Reporting	Canadian Association of Radiologists. Bone Mineral Densitometry Reporting. CAR; 2013. Available from: https://car.ca/wp-content/uploads/Technical-Standards-for-Bone-Mineral-Densitometry-Reporting-2013.pdf
College Bylaws	College of Physicians and Surgeons of British Columbia. Bylaws [Internet]. Vancouver: College of Physicians and Surgeons of British Columbia; 2009 [revised 2023 Jan 13].
DAP	College of Physicians and Surgeons of British Columbia – Diagnostic Accreditation Program
DICOM-NEMA	The Medical Imaging Technology Association (MITA), NEMA, " About DICOM: Overview." https://www.dicomstandard.org/about-home. Accessed 10/30/2024.
Health Canada - Medical Devices Regulations	Government of Canada, "Medical devices". 2024-09-11. https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/drugs-health-products/medical-devices.html. Accessed 10/30/2024.
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Abbreviation	Reference
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