

New Mexico Environment Department  
Medical Imaging and Radiation Therapy Advisory Council (MIRTAC)  
Unapproved Minutes of the Meeting  
October 19, 2012

The meeting of the Medical Imaging and Radiation Therapy Advisory Council was called to order on October 19, 2012 at 9:10 a.m. at the offices of American Society of Radiologic Technologists, 15000 Central Avenue SE, Albuquerque, NM 87123. The meeting was adjourned at 3:49 p.m.

Council members present were:

Darla J. Matthew, Chair  
Joseph Valdez  
Dr. Felipe Lim  
Evelyn Vasquez

Council members not present were:

Greg Ortega, Co-Chair  
Christina Seed  
Donetta Roth

Also present were:

Tammy Mc Speritt	Plains Regional Medical Center in Clovis, Director of Imaging and Chairperson of the NM Society of Radiologic Technologist Board
James Mc Gowan	Presbyterian Radiology Quality Metrics Safety Manager
Ricky Richerson	Dan C. Trigg Presbyterian Medical Center
Gayle A. Richerson	NMNA Board
Michele Robbins	Presbyterian
Dorene Ford	Ultrasound Technologist
Saul Carrasco	RDMS
Mike Stewart	DACC Radiologic Technologist Program Clinical Coordinator
Joey Battles	ARRT Director
Barb Burnham	JRCERT Accreditation Specialist
Mike Frain	Northern NM College Radiography Program Director
Benn Bonfantini	Representing ARMIRIT
Gloria Doherty	UNMH
Jeff Dye	NM Hospital Association
Sagit Frasier	XRANM
Sue Semenczuk	Presbyterian Radiology Nurse Manager
Annja Cox	DACC Radiography Program Director
Brian Moffett	Miners' Colfax Medical Center Radiology Manager
Elizabeth Greer	UNM Radiologic Sciences Department of Radiology Program Director
Santiago Rodriguez	NMED RCB Program Manager
Stephen Sanchez	NMED RCB MIRTTP Program Administrator

Item 1: Joseph Valdez motioned to move item "IV. NMED Presentation of Revisions to 20.3.20 NMAC" to after the morning break. Dr. Felipe Lim seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

Item 2: Joseph Valdez motioned to approve the agenda as modified. Dr. Felipe Lim seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

Item 3: Dr. Felipe Lim motioned to approve the meeting minutes from the August 3, 2012 as submitted. Evelyn Vasquez seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

Item 4: Saul Carrasco requested that MIRTAC meetings be made know to the public by means of a public notice. Darla Matthew pointed out that public notice of the MIRTAC meeting was given in the Albuquerque Journal, the NMED web site, and to individuals that requested to be placed on the MIRT Program list serve. The list serve provides various types of medical imaging and radiation therapy issues, which includes MIRTAC meeting notices.

Item 5: Joey Battles presented the views of the ARRT regarding the acceptance of individuals that have completed both programmatically and regionally accredited programs to take national exams offered by the ARRT. He pointed out that Eastern New Mexico University in Roswell, the University Of New Mexico School Of Medicine in Albuquerque, and Central New Mexico Community College (CNMCC) are currently not programmatically accredited and would therefore be affected by the proposed changes of 20.3.20 NMAC as presented.

Item 6: James Mc Gowen clinical coordinator at CNMCC spoke for that program and mentioned that regardless of the proposed rules CNMCC has decided to pursue programmatic accreditation.

Item 7: Elizabeth Greer program director at UNM stated that UNM currently does not offer an entry level radiography program; however, UNM does have a Nuclear Medicine Program that is in the beginning stages of seeking programmatic accreditation.

Item 8: Barbara Burnham presented the views of JRCERT, which are in favor of only programmatic accreditation and are against regionally accredited programs. Ms. Burnham also mentioned that JRCERT would be willing to do some discounting for institutions in NM that would seek programmatic accreditation from JRCERT.

Item 9: Mike Stewart clinical coordinator at DACC spoke in support of programmatic accreditation.

Item 10: Annja Cox radiography program director at DACC spoke in support of programmatic accreditation.

Item 11: Brian Moffett radiology manager at Miners' Colfax Medical Center spoke in support of regional accreditation and stated his concern that individuals from other states that are registered with the ARRT and completed a program that was not programmatic accredited eligibility for NM Licensure. Ms. Matthew indicated that the intent of the proposed rule change to require programmatic accreditation for programs in NM is to help ensure public safety, and indicated that the state would continue to recognize ARRT registration as a means to acquiring NM medical imaging or radiation therapy licensure.

Item 12: Saul Carrasco stated his concern of having a mechanism to verify the quality of the medical images by holding someone, such as the radiologists, the supervisors of radiology departments, or supervisors of ultrasound departments accountable for the quality of the medical images themselves.

Item 13: Santiago Rodriguez NMED RCB Program Manager stated that by having a strong licensing program in place and by the inspection of the medical imaging equipment that emit ionizing radiation will help in promoting public safety, and to eventually expand to the inspection of all non-ionizing medical imaging equipment.

Item 14: William Pacheco wanted to know if the proposed rules would have an impact on guidance procedures that do not involve diagnostic procedures, and if the proposed rules would prevent nurses or techs from doing non-diagnostic imaging procedures.

Item 15: Gloria Doherty is a critical care nurse practitioner who shared her concerns about how the proposed rules may have a negative impact on the quality of care that patients receive from critical care nurse practitioners, if the proposed rules restricted them from performing non-diagnostic procedures.

Item 16: Joey Battles expressed his concern about definition "Z" of the proposed rules, and suggested to MIRTAC to consider revising it, to include language that would require nationally recognized organizations that are recognized by MIRTAC be limited to those that have been approved by organizations that have been reviewed and approved by a reviewing organization such as the Institute for Credentialing Excellence.

Item 17: Stephen Sanchez presented the proposed revisions to 20.3.20 NMAC. During the presentation he was reassured by Ms. Matthew that the MIRT Program would be able to issue NM licensure to any individual that is currently registered by nationally recognized organizations, such as ARDMS, ARMRIT, ARRT, CCI or NMTCB regardless of the type of program accreditation at the time their application is submitted to the Department.

Item 18: Joseph Valdez motioned to keep definition "P. Category A credits or category A+ credits" as presented. Evelyn Vasquez seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

Item 19: Dr. Felipe Lim moved to take "option (1)" that appeared on the handout from Barb Burnham and insert "option (1)" on page 2 of 17, lines 23 through 28 of the proposed draft version so that "licensure programs" is stated as follows: "(1) Licensure programs. All educational programs that lead to entry-level medical imaging and radiation therapy shall be accredited or be in the process of attaining accreditation by an agency recognized by the USDE or the CHEA as programmatic accreditors, educational programs that leads to entry-level radiologist assistants, and all must be recognized by certification agencies such as, but not limited to ARDMS, ARMRIT, ARRT, CCI or NMTCB approved. All approved schools requiring programmatic accreditation shall be programmatically accredited beginning five years from the effective date stated in this part." Evelyn Vasquez seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

Item 20: Dr. Felipe Lim moved to remove "direct supervision of a licensed practitioner or the direct supervision of a medical imaging professional or radiation therapy professional." In definition "U." on page 3 of 17, lines 27 and 28, and replace that phrase with "supervision that meets the training

standards of programmatic accreditation agencies.” Evelyn Vasquez seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

Item 21: Evelyn Vasquez moved to define “direct supervision” as “physical presence”; and to define “indirect supervision” as “immediately available”. Dr. Felipe Lim seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

Item 22: Joseph Valdez moved that on page 3 of 17 of the proposed draft, where it says “Continuing education (CE)” to include the term “continuing medical education (CME)” and to strike out of the “continuing education” definition “means a learning activity that is planned, organized and administered to enhance the professional knowledge and skills underlying professional performance” and replace it with “for which the attendee earns continuing education credit that satisfy the requirements to maintain national certification for the modality in which they are licensed.” to the “continuing education” definition. Dr. Felipe Lim seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

Item 23: Dr. Felipe Lim moved to strike the following : “, computed tomography (CT), registered radiologist assistant (RRA), Mammography (M), Quality Management (QM), Bone Densitometry (BD), Cardiac Interventional (CI), Vascular Interventional (VI), Vascular Sonography, Breast Sonography, and registered diagnostic medical sonographer (RDMS).” from the “Modality” definition that appeared on page 5 of 17 of the proposed draft of 20.3.20 NMAC. Evelyn Vasquez seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

Item 24: Joseph Valdez moved to strike “post-surgical” from the “Point of care ultrasound” definition that appeared on page 5 of 17 of the proposed draft of 20.3.20 NMAC. Dr. Felipe Lim seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

Item 25: Joseph Valdez moved to strike “involve primary billing codes” from the “Point of care ultrasound” definition that appeared on page 5 of 17 of the proposed draft of 20.3.20 NMAC. Dr. Felipe Lim seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

Item 26: Joseph Valdez moved to strike lines 40 through 43 or the entire “Primary billing codes” definition that appeared on page 5 of 17 of the proposed draft of 20.3.20 NMAC. Dr. Felipe Lim seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

Item 27: Dr. Felipe Lim moved to insert the words “structures or” in line 27, in between “superficial” and “organs” in the “Small parts” definition that appears on page 6 of 17 of the proposed draft of 20.3.20 NMAC. Joseph Valdez seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

Item 28: Joseph Valdez moved to modify the definition of “Small parts” to the following: “Small parts means superficial structures, organs, or anatomy, including, but not limited to, the axilla, chest wall, abdominal wall, penis, scrotum, testicles, thyroid, parathyroid, and other non-vascular structures of the neck or extremities.”. Evelyn Vasquez seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

Item 29: Dr. Felipe Lim moved to strike lines 34 through 37 or the entire “Sonography licensure” definition that appeared on page 6 of 17 of the proposed draft of 20.3.20 NMAC. Joseph Valdez seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

Item 30: Joseph Valdez moved to take a break. Dr. Felipe Lim seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

Item 31: Joseph Valdez moved to have NM Medical Imaging and Radiation Therapy licenses match the expiration date of ARRT CEU biennium. Evelyn Vasquez seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

Item 32: Joseph Valdez moved to strike lines 8 through 9 on page 9 of 17 of the proposed draft of 20.3.20 NMAC and replace it with the following: “(1) perform an examination within any of the medical imaging modalities without a prescription from a licensed practitioner or use ionizing or non-ionizing radiation for diagnostic, interventional, or therapeutic purposes, or both, on humans, with the exception of point-of care ultrasound;”. Dr. Felipe Lim seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

Item 33: Dr. Felipe Lim moved to require individuals that apply for a new NM medical imaging or radiation therapy license after the effective date stated in the proposed new or revised rules, by means of examination of credentials, be required, as a condition of that licensees’ renewal, maintain active and good standing registration with the national organization that was used as a means of obtaining their NM licensure pursuant to the licensure requirements stated in 20.3.20 NMAC. Joseph Valdez seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

Item 34: Joseph Valdez moved to add “(d) point-of-care ultrasound” as one of the exceptions listed in 20.3.20.300 part I. Exceptions, section 1, after line 45 on page 12 of 17 of the proposed draft of 20.3.20 NMAC. Evelyn Vasquez seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Item 34: A list that categorizes the types of licenses offered by the MIRT Program will need to be discussed and placed in the next proposed draft of changes or replacement of 20.3.20 NMAC prior to the next MIRTAC meeting. Some of the categories discussed during the meeting were: Cardiac Sonography (RDCS), Computed Tomography (CT), Magnetic Resonance (MR), Medical Sonography (RDMS), Musculoskeletal Sonography (RMSK), Nuclear Medicine (N), Radiation Therapy (T), Radiography (R), Registered Radiologist Assistant (RRA), and Medical Sonography (RDMS) and Vascular Sonography (RVT). The license category list will represent the various types of licenses offered by the MIRT Program.

Item 35: Dr. Felipe Lim moved to adjourn. Joseph Valdez seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.