

Flanigan Square, 547 River Street, Troy, New York 12180-2216

Richard F. Daines, M.D. Commissioner

April 30, 2007

TO: New York State Medical Use Radioactive Materials Licensees

**RE:** Nuclear Medicine Technologist Licensure

(Notice No. BERP 2007-2)

## Dear Licensee:

The purpose of this notice is to inform you of the training and experience that will be required for licensure of nuclear medicine technologists in New York State.

On July 26, 2006, a new Article 35 of the Public Health law created Nuclear Medicine Technology as a third category of the Practice of Radiologic Technology. Nuclear Medicine Technology licensure and registration becomes effective on July 26, 2007, and all persons who perform the duties of a Nuclear Medicine Technologist (NMT) on or after January 1, 2009 must be licensed by and registered with the Department of Health. Educational requirements for NMT licensure and registration are being developed and will appear in a revised Part 89 (Chapter II Administrative Rules and Regulations, Subchapter L).

Persons who provide satisfactory proof that they passed the Nuclear Medicine Technology Certification Board (NMTCB) examination for Nuclear Medicine Technology, or the American Registry of Radiologic Technology (ARRT) primary certification exam for Nuclear Medicine Technology, will meet the training and educational requirements for licensure and registration. (However, please note that individuals will not be required to be members of these organizations.)

A "grandfathering" provision will allow individuals who have met specific experience and educational requirements but have not taken or passed either the AART or NMTCB examination to qualify for licensure. Chapter 574 of the Laws of 2006 states, in part: "§ 3 (b) Any individual currently practicing as a nuclear medicine technologist prior to the effective date of this act (July 26, 2007) may be licensed to practice nuclear medicine technology pursuant to article 35 of the public health law, as added by section one of this act, provided that he or she has (i) satisfactorily completed an educational program in nuclear medical technology acceptable to the Department of Health and has five years of verifiable and satisfactory employment within the previous ten years as a nuclear medical technologist." For purposes of this section, a nuclear medical technology educational program acceptable to the Department is one that meets the requirements set by the AART or NMTCB to become eligible to sit for their respective NMT examination. Evidence of satisfactory employment will be a signed attestation form listing the qualifying experience and competency in the administration of radioactive materials.

Individuals such as Licensed Radiological Technologists (x-ray techs.) who may be working as a NMT but are not certified should pursue certification as soon as possible. Please contact the AART and/or NMTCB for their requirements.

We request that you furnish a copy of this notice to applicable staff. We encourage affected persons to contact us if they are uncertain that they will meet the training and experience requirements by the January 1, 2009 deadline.

You can contact us at 518/402-7590, e-mail us at berp@health.state.ny.us or write to:

New York State Department of Health Bureau of Environmental Radiation Protection Radioactive Materials Section 547 River Street Flanigan Square, Room 530 Troy, New York 12180-2216

Sincerely,

Robert E. Dansereau, Chief Radioactive Materials Section

Bureau of Environmental Radiation Protection

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