

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

NO. 907

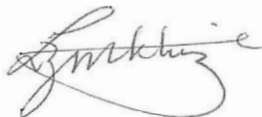
21 AUGUST 2020

HEALTH PROFESSIONS ACT, 1974 (ACT No. 56 OF 1974)

REGULATIONS DEFINING THE SCOPE OF THE PROFESSION OF RADIOGRAPHY

The Minister of Health intends, in terms of section 33(1) of the Health Professions Act, 1974 (Act No. 56 of 1974), and on the recommendation of the Health Professions Council of South Africa and the Professional Board for Radiography and Clinical Technology, to make the Regulations in the Schedule.

Interested persons are invited to submit any substantiated comments or representations on the proposed regulations to the Director-General of Health, Private Bag X828, Pretoria, 0001 (for attention of the Director: Public Entities Governance: mihloti.mushwana@health.gov.za), within three months of the date of publication of this Notice.



DR ZWELINI LAWRENCE MKHIZE, MP

MINISTER OF HEALTH

DATE: 15/07/2020

SCHEDULE

DEFINITIONS

1. In these regulations, any word or expression to which has been assigned in the Act shall have that meaning, unless the context indicates: -

“another healthcare practitioner” means any other healthcare practitioner registered as such in terms of any legislation regulating healthcare practitioners in South Africa;

“ethical rules of conduct” means the Ethical rules of conduct for practitioners registered under the Health Professions Act, 1974 as published under Government Notice No. R717 in Government Gazette No. 29079 of 4 August 2006 as amended; and

“Act” means the Health Professions Act, 1974 (Act No. 56 of 1974).

SCOPE OF RADIOGRAPHY

2. The following acts are hereby specified as acts which shall for purposes of the Act be deemed to be acts pertaining to the profession of radiography: -

(1) **Diagnostic**

(a) *Imaging* - the production and recording of images of anatomical regions and physiological functions by means of x-radiation and other non-ionising modalities for Diagnostic purposes including but not limited to:

(i) *X-rays* - all Diagnostic x-ray procedures performed at the request of another healthcare practitioner;

(ii) *Magnetic Resonance Imaging* - performed at the request of another healthcare practitioner; and

(iii) *Mammography* - performed at the request of another healthcare practitioner subject to rule 21 of the Ethical rules of conduct.

(b) *Basic Image Interpretation* – providing written or verbal interpretation of plain Diagnostic Images subject to rule 21 of the Ethical rules of conduct.

(c) *Radiation protection* - the application of radiation protection measures and techniques to minimise radiation exposure to patients, staff, self, and the public in accordance with the rules, regulations, and recommendations of the Radiation Control Directorate of the National Department of Health in South Africa and to ensure the health, safety and wellbeing of staff.

- (d) *Medicine Control & Administration* – The control and administration (including cannulation) of contrast media and relevant pharmaceuticals subject to rule 21 of the ethical rules of conduct.

(2) **Radiation Therapy**

- (a) *Tumour localization imaging* – producing and recording of images of anatomical regions and physiological functions by means of radiation media for the purpose of tumour localization and verification of planned Radiation Therapy treatment, at the written request of the Radiation Oncologist.
- (b) *Dosimetric treatment planning* - Collaboration with the Radiation Oncologist and Medical Physicist or Radiation Physicist, to delineate the Radiotherapy treatment or tumour volumes, and plan the appropriate external beam Radiotherapy or Brachytherapy, as prescribed by the Radiation Oncologist.
- (c) *Construction of immobilisation* and other accessories related to the patient's planned Radiation Therapy procedures.
- (d) *Administration of treatment* - to treat patients accurately, using ionizing radiation, as prescribed by the Radiation Oncologist.
- (e) *Care of patients*
 - (i) Collaborate with the Radiation Oncologist to ensure optimum patient care and psychosocial support during all procedures associated with the practice of Radiation Therapy, including tumour localization, treatment planning, treatment delivery and construction of Radiation Therapy accessories; and
 - (ii) Advising and instructing patients regarding skin care, diet, and general health in accordance with the instructions of the Radiation Oncologist or Medical Practitioner.
- (f) *Therapeutic Radioactive isotopes* – collaboration with the Medical Physicist or Radiation Physicists on the storage, handling, and administration of therapeutic radioactive isotopes (sealed) as prescribed by the Radiation Oncologist.
- (g) *Radiation protection* - the application of radiation protection measures and techniques to minimise radiation exposure to patients, staff, self, and general public in accordance with rules, regulations, and recommendations of the Radiation Control Directorate of the National Department of Health in South Africa and to ensure the health, safety, and wellbeing of staff.

- (h) *Control and administration of contrast media* - The control and administration of contrast media (including cannulation) and relevant pharmaceuticals subject to rule 21 of the ethical rules of conduct.
- (i) *Approval of portal verification*- imaging subject to rule 21 of the ethical rules of conduct.
- (j) *Counselling* of patients and their families subject to rule 21 of the ethical rules of conduct.
- (k) *On treatment review* - assessing patients during Radiation Therapy, advising and instructing patients with regard to drugs and medication to counteract side effects where necessary and referring patients to other healthcare practitioners subject to rule 21 of the ethical rules of conduct.

(3) **Nuclear Medicine**

- (a) *Imaging* – the acquisition, processing, analysing, and recording of images of cellular function, organ anatomy, and physiology by means of the administration of radiopharmaceuticals and adjunctive medications.
- (b) *Non-imaging* – performance of all procedures including procedures requiring acquisition of biological specimens for the elucidation of physiological functions or biochemical processes by means of radioactive materials and substances which are not included in paragraph (a).
- (c) *Radionuclides* – performance of all radionuclide and radiopharmaceutical procedures at the request of a Medical Practitioner.
- (d) *Radiation protection* – the application of radiation protection measures and techniques to minimise radiation exposure to patients, staff, self, and the public in accordance with the rules, regulations, and recommendations of the Radiation Control Directorate of the National Department of Health in South Africa and to ensure the health, safety and wellbeing of staff.
- (e) *Radiopharmaceuticals and Medicine Control* –
 - (i) The procurement, reconstitution, quality control, dosage calculation and dispensing of Radiopharmaceuticals;
 - (ii) The administration of radiopharmaceuticals in tracer quantities for diagnostic purposes, including the administration of low-risk pharmacological adjuncts; and
 - (iii) The control and administration (including cannulation) of contrast media as required for dual imaging techniques subject to rule 21 of the ethical rules of conduct.

- (f) *Hybrid Imaging* – the acquisition, processing, recording, and analysing of images derived from dual imaging systems incorporating Nuclear Medicine systems with other imaging or Radiation Therapy planning modalities.
- (g) *Therapeutic* –
 - (i) Managing the storage and preparation of unsealed radionuclides and radiopharmaceuticals for therapeutic procedures and targeted molecular therapy; and
 - (ii) Assistance with administration of radiopharmaceuticals in the presence of, and under the supervision of a Nuclear Medicine Physician or Radiation Oncologist.
- (4) **Diagnostic Ultrasound**
 - (a) *Imaging* - all Diagnostic Ultrasound procedures for the production and recording of images of anatomical regions and physiological functions by means of Ultrasound for diagnostic purposes including but not limited to:
 - (i) *Abdominal Ultrasound* - performed at the request of another healthcare practitioner;
 - (ii) *Gynaecological and Obstetrical Ultrasound* - performed at the request of another healthcare practitioner;
 - (iii) *Vascular Ultrasound* - performed at the request of another healthcare practitioner;
 - (iv) *Cardiac Ultrasound* - performed at the request of another healthcare practitioner; and
 - (v) *Musculoskeletal Ultrasound* - performed at the request of another healthcare practitioner.
 - (b) *Image Interpretation and Report Writing* - provide a written or verbal report on the Ultrasound findings to the requesting healthcare practitioner, in which the normal and abnormal appearances of the relevant areas are identified and described; where relevant and consistent with local practice, recommend further imaging.
 - (c) *Medicine Control and Administration*– The control and administration (including cannulation) of Ultrasound contrast agents and relevant pharmaceuticals subject to rule 21 of the Ethical rules of conduct.
 - (d) *Therapeutic usage of high intensity ultrasound* – participate in and perform non-invasive ablation of cancer cells using high intensity frequency ultrasound subject to rule 21 of the Ethical rules of conduct.

REPEAL OF LAWS

3. The Regulations Defining the Scope of the Profession of Radiography as published under Government Notice No R2326 in *Government Gazette* 5349 of 3 December 1976 are hereby repealed.