

# 10.32.15 Registered Cardiovascular Invasive Specialists

## **.01 Scope.**

*A. This chapter governs:*

- (1) The delegation of technical acts by a physician to an RCIS assisting in the physician's performance of fluoroscopy during a cardiac catheterization procedure under certain circumstances as authorized under this chapter;*
- (2) The responsibilities of the hospital in which the cardiac catheterization laboratory is located to verify and document the qualifications of an RCIS and to ensure that all requirements of Health Occupations Article, §14-306, Annotated Code of Maryland, and this regulation are met for each procedure; and*

*B. This chapter may not be construed:*

- (1) As establishing the licensure, certification, or registration by the Board of an RCIS; or*
- (2) To mean that this chapter overrides or is to be used in lieu of more stringent regulations, policies, and procedures established regulations, policies, or procedures imposed by an employer or Board-approved accrediting agencies.*

## **.02 Definitions.**

*A. In this chapter, the following terms have the meanings indicated.*

*B. Terms Defined.*

- (1) "Board" has the meaning stated in Health Occupations, §14-101, Annotated Code of Maryland.*
- (2) "Direct supervision" means the supervisor is physically present on the premises, personally treating the patient, and in the presence of the patient while services are provided.*
- (3) "Fluoroscopy" means a technique for generating X-ray images and presenting them simultaneously and continuously as visible images.*
- (4) "Physician" means an individual licensed to practice medicine in Maryland under Health Occupations Article, Title 14, Annotated Code of Maryland.*

(5) *“Perform fluoroscopy” means the energizing of a fluoroscopic x-ray system by an individual authorized in accordance with Maryland Department of the Environment regulations.*

(6) *“Readily retrievable” means maintained in a method by which a health care facility, physician’s office, or employer can retrieve and produce the record for the Board or the Office of Controlled Substances Administration of the Maryland Department of Health upon request.*

(7) *“Registered cardiovascular invasive specialist (RCIS)” means an individual who is credentialed by Cardiovascular Credentialing International or another credentialing body approved by the Board to assist in cardiac catheterization procedures under the direct supervision of a physician.*

(8) *“Technical acts” means a routine medical or surgical act that does not require medical judgment and is performed with the supervision as specified within this chapter.*

### **.03 RCIS Qualifications and Scope.**

*A. An RCIS shall:*

*(1) Possess an active RCIS certification issued by Cardiovascular Credentialing International or another credentialing body approved by the Board; and*

*(2) Complete 40 hours of:*

*(a) Accredited didactic education in fluoroscopic radiation physics and fluoroscopic patient safety; and*

*(b) Clinical fluoroscopic training supervised by a radiologist, radiographer, or radiologist assistant who is physically present in the room with the RCIS to instruct the clinical fluoroscopic training.*

*B. The RCIS:*

*(1) May not perform fluoroscopy;*

*(2) Shall perform technical acts to assist the physician in the physician’s performance of fluoroscopy only upon verbal direction from the physician;*

*(3) May not delegate any act to another individual; and*

*(4) May not engage in prohibited conduct as set out in .06 of this chapter.*

### **.04 RCIS, Hospital, and Physician Requirements.**

*A. An RCIS shall:*

*(1) Wear an identification badge displaying in readily visible type:*

*(a) The name of the RCIS; and*

*(b) A designation by the hospital of verification of the RCIS’s credentials and completion of requirements to assist in a physician’s performance of fluoroscopy; and*

*(2) Comply with any additional requirements as established by:*

*(a) Maryland Department of the Environment;*

- (b) The Joint Commission; and*
- (c) Federal and State laws and regulations.*

*B. The hospital shall:*

- (a) Verify that the RCIS has met the requirements in regulation .03A of this chapter before permitting an RCIS to assist in a physician's performance of fluoroscopy;*
- (b) Issue to the RCIS an identification badge in accordance with §A(1) of this regulation;*
- (c) Keep on site all documentation of the RCIS's certification and the additional training required under this regulation;*
- (d) Permit the Board, at any reasonable hour, to inspect the hospital's documentation of the RCIS's certification and training to ensure compliance with this chapter;*
- (e) Regarding radiation machines and fluoroscopy services, comply with any additional requirements as established by:*
  - (i) Maryland Department of the Environment;*
  - (ii) The Joint Commission; and*
  - (iii) Federal and State laws and regulations; and*
- (f) Verify that the acts delegated to the RCIS are in accordance with the scope of this chapter.*

*C. The physician shall:*

- (1) Exercise direct supervision of the RCIS when the RCIS is assisting the physician in the physician's performance of fluoroscopy;*
- (2) Delegate only technical acts involved in the physician's performance of fluoroscopy in accordance with .04 of this chapter; and*
- (3) Verbally direct each technical act performed by the RCIS.*

## ***.05 Physician Delegation Standards.***

*A. A physician who delegates shall:*

- (1) Evaluate the risk to the patient and the outcome of the delegated acts;*
- (2) Delegate only those technical acts that are customary to the practice of the physician;*
- (3) Delegate only those technical acts for which the RCIS has been trained;*
- (4) Be responsible for the acts of the RCIS; and*
- (5) Supervise the RCIS.*

*B. The responsibility for the delegated act cannot be transferred from the delegating physician to another physician without:*

- (1) The expressed consent of the other physician; and*
- (2) Informing the RCIS.*

## **.06 Prohibited Conduct.**

*A. An RCIS acting beyond the scope of this chapter may be:*

- (1) Considered to be engaged in the unlicensed practice of medicine;*
- (2) Considered to be engaged in the unlicensed practice of radiography; and*
- (3) Subject to all applicable penalties and fines in accordance with Health Occupations Article, §§14-601, 14-606, and 14-5B-17 Annotated Code of Maryland, and COMAR 10.32.02.*

*B. A delegating physician, through either act or omission, facilitation, or otherwise enabling or forcing an RCIS to practice beyond the scope of this chapter, may be subject to discipline for grounds within Health Occupations Article, §14-404(a), Annotated Code of Maryland, including, but not limited to, practicing medicine with an unauthorized person or aiding an unauthorized person in the practice of medicine.*

*C. A delegating physician may not:*

- (1) Require an RCIS to perform a delegated act; or*
- (2) Permit an RCIS to delegate any act to another individual.*

## **.07 Enforcement**

*A hospital that fails to comply with the requirements of Health Occupations Article, §14-306, Annotated Code of Maryland, and this chapter may be assessed a civil penalty of up to \$5,000 for each instance.*