Update on AAPM Position Statement on the Use of Patient Gonadal and Fetal Shielding

Nina Kowalczyk, PhD, RT(R)(CT)(QM), FASRT, FAEIRS

Abstract

The AEIRS Board of Directors are committed to keeping our members updated on the most recent developments regarding "American Association of Physicists in Medicine (AAPM) Position Statement on the Use of Patient Gonadal and Patient Shielding" (https://www.aapm.org/org/policies/details.asp?id=468&type=PP) which was released late April, 2019. Following the 2019 AEIRS Annual Meeting in July, I reached out to AAPM and was invited to represent AEIRS as a member of the Communicating Advances in Radiation Education for Shielding (CARES) Committee in August 2019. The purpose of this committee is to bring together professionals from different sectors to facilitate discussions regarding diverse opinions and perspectives, discuss potential changes to clinical practice and to offer sample policies and procedures for use in clinical facilities.

An Examination of the Efficacy of Traditional Admissions Criteria on Persistence to Graduation Among Radiography Students

Joy Menser, Ed.D., R.T.(R)(T)
Aaron W. Hughey, Ed.D.

Abstract

The relationship between traditional admissions criteria and graduation rates of radiography students was investigated. Two-year programs that utilized more traditional admissions criteria had higher graduation rates, as opposed to 2-year programs with moderate to low rates. Using more criteria for admission seems to be positively related to student persistence to program completion. ANOVA demonstrated statistically significant differences ($p = 0.05$) between 2-year programs that use traditional admissions criteria more extensively and programs that do not approach admissions in such a comprehensive manner. Radiography program directors can utilize the results to reformat their current admissions process to improve graduation rates in their programs.

Radiography Students' Radiation Exposure Perceptions and Protection Methods

Angie Eaton, M.Ed., R.T.(R)(VI)(CT)

Abstract

This study was performed to determine student perceptions of radiation exposure and protection methods. Knowledge of radiation protection and exposure dose rates is similar among the three main program groups studied. Findings demonstrated an increase in awareness and reduction of radiation dose knowledge among the students enrolled for 11 months or longer. This study presents that radiography students received adequate training in radiation protection and consistently use common dose reduction methods. However, students observed radiographers were not as diligent in the use of radiation protection, indicating there is a need for continued education in radiation protection among radiographers.