



## Recency of practice

---

The Board is currently dispatching a copy of its "Recency of Practice" policy to all registrants for consideration. This is a further follow up seeking registrant feedback prior to amendments of the regulations. Previous consultation, included the release of a discussion paper in February 2005 and stakeholder meetings in the first half of 2006

The key components of this policy are:

1. evidence of continuing professional development/ education will become necessary for renewal of registration;
2. absences from practice (less than 1 year's Full Time Equivalent practice in the last 5 years) in general practice may result in conditional registration being issued by the Board at the point of renewal of registration;
3. registrants, supervisors and practice owners will need to be aware that particularly for the medical imaging technologists, this proposed recency of practice policy may affect those that have sub-specialised; and
4. MRI, CT, Mammography and Sonography whilst considered as medical imaging technology are not regarded as general radiography when applied to the competencies within the legislation.

The policy is aimed at ensuring standards are met and maintained to ensure public confidence in the professions as per *Section 7 of the Medical Radiation Technologists Registration Act 2001*. The Board encourages all registrants to carefully consider the document and respond in writing to the Board's Office. Telephone enquiries should be directed to the MRT Board Coordinator F Holloway on 3222 2808.

On 4 September 2006 the Board met with industry stakeholders and discussed the following topics:

1. radiation licensing and registration conflicts and duplications;
2. hybrid machines and the impact on radiation licensing;
3. recency of practice;
4. SPP and changes in requirements; and
5. published articles awards.

Wayne Nuss  
Chairperson

## Published article award

---

### Very important - change of application date for award!!

The Board determined recently that the most ideal forum to present its *Published Article Award* would be at the graduates' breakfast to be held 15 November 2006. This means applications received previously by end December will now need to be at the Board's Office by **20 October 2006**.

Registrants seeking an explanation of the *Award* should first access the policy and application form on the Board's website before contacting the MRT Coordinator for further advice.

## Final reports

---

The final reports for probationary registrants will be issued on 1 November 2006 and are due to be returned to the Office by 29 November 2006 (provided all the competencies for the program have been met).

It is anticipated all reports will be assessed at a meeting on 6 December 2006. Please be aware that this is a combined assessment by the Australian Institute of Radiography (AIR) and the Board. After initial assessments, each organisation must arrange subsequent general registration and accreditation.

The Board thanks the AIR for its consultation and contributions in this area.

Practices and those involved with the supervised practice program should be aware the Board will again hold an information session breakfast with graduates. At these sessions, the Board, Radiation Health and the AIR have an opportunity to impart knowledge and requirements onto the graduates of QUT.

## Board / SPP committee policies

---

After a successful trial in 2006 with medical imaging technology, the SPP committee has Board approval to instigate supervision plans for the professions of radiation therapy and nuclear medicine technology.

The suggested content of these plans will be advised shortly to sites in those professions. This will be a requirement for the 2007 graduate year.

It has also been determined by the SPP committee that applications for increases in positions and new practices should be received by the MRT Coordinator by 1 September each year or four months in advance of the proposed commencement of the graduate.

This will allow an audit to be undertaken and ensure a graduate is not displaced by being appointed to a practice which subsequently is not approved by the Board.

If any practices have questions on this they should direct their enquiries to the MRT Coordinator.

## Registration

It is critical to maintain registration. Employers are again asked to ensure new employees complete registration before employment commences and to check on 1 July each year that all current employees have renewed their registration.

Compliance with this is critical; otherwise, both employer and employee(s) could be held accountable through disciplinary proceedings or through the courts process, with fines of up to \$75,000 detailed in the legislation.

## Supervised practice program committee members

In May 2005 the Board announced a new supervised practice program committee. The significant presence of industry in this group meets the Board's commitment to consult with and involve the professions.

### Board members

Committee Chairperson - Mr John Andersen  
Board Chairperson - Mr Wayne Nuss (EX OFFICIO)

### Industry Representatives

Ms M Filkin	(medical imaging technology)
Ms C McDonnell	(radiation therapy)
Mr N Biesot	(radiation Therapy)
Mr Tim Way	(medical imaging technology)
Ms Melinda Wilson	(nuclear medicine technology)
Ms D Starkey	(medical imaging technology)

### Support Staff

Ms F Holloway	(MRT Coordinator)
Mr D Watson	(Assistant Registrar)

## Contact details for Board / SPP committee

**Phone:** (07) 3234 0102

**Fax:** (07) 3225 2527

**Postal Address:**

PO Box 2438  
Brisbane Qld 4001

**Street Address:**

19th Floor  
Forestry House  
160 Mary Street  
Brisbane QLD 4001

**Board Email:** [mrt@healthregboards.qld.gov.au](mailto:mrt@healthregboards.qld.gov.au)

**SPP Committee Email:**  
[hollowayf@healthregboards.qld.gov.au](mailto:hollowayf@healthregboards.qld.gov.au)

**Website:** [www.mrtboard.qld.gov.au](http://www.mrtboard.qld.gov.au)

