Expanded and Extended Role of Radiographers

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Extended and Expanded Roles of Radiographers Seminar
4 & 5 March, 2010
College of Radiographers UMMC

Contents
◆ The different roles within the clinical practice
◆ The current radiography work force within the current program framework
◆ Factors that encourage or deter the establishment of extended roles

Radiographer – where are we?
WE ARE EVERY WHERE!
• Imaging department
• A&E department
• Wards
• ACC
• OT
• ERCP
• Forensic department
• Vascular department
• Urology department
• Cardiology department
• Neurology department
• Orthopedic department
• Etc.
Radiography is a caring profession which calls for considerable technological expertise.

This key position assists with radiological procedures while attending to patients’ diverse physical and emotional needs

MAIN LINK BETWEEN PATIENT AND CLINICIAN

Factors contributing to expanded and extended role

- Stakeholders factors – the diminishing nos of drs in public sector.
- Allied health factors – career advancement
- Public factors – need for legislation.
- Administrative managers factors – need for right job for the right person.
- Professional and training factors – the world is the stage
- Environmental factors – the customer’s needs
- The multi factorial success factor.

Radiographers - UK

Positive signs:

- Trained radiographers are able to use X-rays as a diagnostic tool (Berman et al, 1985, Hughes et al, 1996).
- Trained radiographers are competent to dual read mammograms along with radiologists (Pauli et al, 1996).
- Trained radiographers appear to be able to report verification films once training is provided (Suter et al, 2000).
- The complication rate for radiographers, who had attended a training course on performing barium enemas, was low and similar to that for radiologists (Bewell et al, 1996).
Radiographers - UK

Present scope (mid 90’s):

- Accident and Emergency services
- Out Patient services radiographers, trained to acquire pattern recognition techniques in chest X-rays, tended to over-report, causing a higher level of false positives (Hughes et al, 1996).
- The ‘Dose Area Product’ in barium enemas carried out by radiographers was significantly higher than when the procedure was carried out by radiologists (Crawley et al, 1998).
- By having to take on too many extra jobs, radiographers could sense unreasonable management expectations rather than opportunities for role development (Price et al, 2000).

Interpretation of selected accident and emergency radiographic examinations by radiographers: a review of 11000 cases

PJ Robinson, G Culpan and M Wiggins
Clinical Radiology Department, St James's University Hospital, Leeds, UK.

It is concluded that appropriately trained and supervised radiographers can successfully undertake diagnostic reporting of selected skeletal examinations on A&E patients.

The British Journal of Radiology, Vol 72, Issue 858 546-551, Copyright © 1999 by British Institute of Radiology

M Hardy and C Barrett
Interpretation of trauma radiographs by radiographers and nurses in the UK: a comparative study
Radiographers - UK

Concerns (mid 90’s):

● Radiographers, trained to acquire pattern recognition techniques in chest X-rays, tended to over-report, causing a higher level of false positives (Hughes et al, 1996).
● The ‘Dose Area Product’ in barium enemas carried out by radiographers was significantly higher than when the procedure was carried out by radiologists (Crawley et al, 1998).
● By having to take on too many extra jobs, radiographers could sense unreasonable management expectations rather than opportunities for role development (Price et al, 2000).

Radiographers - MOH

Do we want to Extend and Expand our roles?

Radiographers - MOH

Role Extension

巣 Do we have staff to do – numbers
巣 Willing to do? - enforcement
巣 Capable of doing? – training
巣 Encroaching others? – job description
巣 Legislation? – are we covered

MOH - Extended and Expanded Role

Series of meetings and discussions

巣 1998 - Bagan Lalang
巣 2000 - Genting Highland
巣 2001 - Johor Bahru
巣 2002 - Penang
Radiographers - MOH

Constraints (mid 90’s):

- Number of radiographers
- MOH new hospitals
- MOH Klinik Kesihatan
- Mushrooming of Private Hospitals – MOH radiographers migration
- Supply and demand
- No Professional Acts

Radiographers - MOH

Present:

- Number of radiographers in the market
- Number of IPTS – Diploma and Degree
- Few new hospitals being built
- MOH Klinik Kesihatan – few new clinics
- Private Hospitals – radiographers migrating to MOH
- Supply and demand
- Professional Acts – almost ready

### MOH - Extended Role Proposal

Proposal at MOH Management Conference 2001 - JB

- Ultrasound (2004)
- Nuclear medicine
- I/V Contrast injection
- Planning, T&C of Equipment
- RIS & PACS management
Present roles:

- to assist/confirm the diagnosis
- to follow the progress
- to recognize complication
- to participate in the therapy
- to comply with medico-legal regulations, insurance.
  - need for expansion

Stop the shouting, shoving and punching.
Minimize clutter and duplication - maximize outcomes!

- Horizontal tasking is more efficient than vertical tasking
- Time is the enemy not individuals

Who holds the privilege to be at the pit stop?

- Emergency physician
- Surgeon
- Anesthetist (Intensivist)
- Radiologist
- Nurse and care assistants
- Radiographers
POST BASIC

- CT SCAN
- Health management (multi-disciplines)
- Trauma radiography as pilot project
- Pediatric in pipe line
- Mammography in pipe line
- Post-Basic courses review
  - MRI
  - MAMMOGRAPHY
  - ULTRASOUND
- (Ruj. Bahagian Perkembangan Perubatan ke Bahagian Pengurusan Latihan 12 April, 2006)

Challenges in the future

- MOH Scenario
- Corporatisation and Privatisation
- Rightsizing or deployment options
- Schemes of service

Conclusion

- Job enrichment
- Training
- Legislation

Role of every radiographer

EXCEL