



State of California—Health and Human Services Agency
Department of Health Services



ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER
Governor

RADIATION SAFETY ADVISORY 06-02

December 1, 2006

To: Mammography Facility Designated Contact

Subject: Requirements for the Use of X-ray in Mammography

This advisory addresses the recently increased findings of non-compliance regarding operation of mammography equipment without proper authorization. State and Federal regulations require that a facility maintain facility certification from the Food and Drug Administration and accreditation from an approved accrediting body for each mammography machine used for screening or diagnostic imaging. These requirements do not relieve your obligation under state law (Health and Saf. Code, §115115) to maintain and post a current and valid Mammography X-Ray Equipment and Facility Accreditation Certificate issued by the Radiologic Health Branch for all mammography equipment

The California Code of Regulations, title 17, section 30110, requires registration of all reportable sources of radiation. Registration and certification of radiation machines is the obligation of the user.

Please note that information provided by facilities to various accrediting or governing bodies is not shared between the accrediting or governing bodies. It is incumbent upon the facility to submit all required information to the appropriate organization. To ensure that the residents of California have access to quality mammography services, you must comply with all state and federal laws and regulations.

Mammography personnel shall meet all state and federal requirements to include a current and valid: California medical license and supervisor and operator certificate issued by the Radiologic Health Branch pursuant to Health and Safety Code, section 114870 for licentiates; state mammography certificate issued by the Radiologic Health Branch pursuant to Health and Safety Code, section 114870 for technologists; and state approval issued pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 17, section 30315.52 for medical physicists. Federal requirements can be found in the Code of Federal Regulations, title 21, section 900.12. Additionally, all personnel shall comply with continuing education and experience requirements.

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In accordance with Health and Safety Code, section 115215, any person who violates any provision of state law relating to mammography or regulations adopted pursuant to those provisions is guilty of a misdemeanor and shall, upon conviction thereof, be punished by a fine not to exceed five thousand dollars (\$5,000), per day of offense, or by imprisonment in the county jail not to exceed 180 days, or both the fine and imprisonment.

You may obtain applications, forms, and guides on the Radiologic Health Branch's website at www.dhs.ca.gov/rhb. Thank you for your cooperation. If you have any questions, please contact this office via one of the choices listed below.

Gary W. Butner, Acting Chief
Radiologic Health Branch
California Department of Health Services