

Visits to Clinical Affiliates

The JRCNMT is sometimes asked why programs are required to complete a minimum of two visits to clinical affiliates each year. There are several reasons why visits by the Program Director (PD) and/or Clinical Coordinator (CC) are of value and included in the accreditation standards.

Reason 1: There are things that can be observed by visiting a clinic that may not be noted in a phone call or email. This may include construction in the department, broken or new equipment, staffing changes, teaching skill of staff technologists, and the quality of interactions between students and technologists.

Reason 2: Visits can strengthen the relationship between the program and affiliate by demonstrating that the program is willing to take the time and effort to make routine visits. We've all heard of staff techs telling students that faculty are 'out of touch' with the real world or don't appreciate the work the clinics do for the

program. Visits get faculty out into the real world and let the clinical staff know the program cares about and appreciates the work they do with students.

Reason 3: Visits keep the lines of communication open and reinforce the idea that the clinical staff is an integral part of the education team. By knowing their importance to the educational process technologists may be more likely to contact the program at the time a student has a problem or if they notice a gap in students' foundational knowledge upon entering the clinical setting. They may also be more willing to make an effort to participate in Advisory Committee activities if they know their work is valued.

Some final clinical visit reminders:

- Visits should be made to all satellite areas of an affiliate and not just the main department.
- The two required visits must be made by the JRCNMT-recognized PD or CC.

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Status of Standards Revision

The JRCNMT Board of Directors would like to thank everyone that participated in the survey of the current accreditation standards. At its meeting in October the board reviewed the survey results and began writing the first draft of the new standards.

Attempting to address the many recent changes in the profession and in higher

education and trying to anticipate future changes is complex and time-consuming. The board expects to release the first draft for public comment in early summer.

Please make the time to complete the survey on the draft when it becomes available so a broad variety of input is received.

New Email Address

Please be sure to add the JRCNMT's new email address to your email contacts and mark the address as a 'safe sender' so emails from the office aren't removed by your spam filter.

mail@jrcnmt.org



2015 Presentations

Mark your calendar for the JRCNMT Update scheduled for **Saturday, June 6** during the Educator's Forum at the SNMMI Annual Meeting in Baltimore.

Though not confirmed yet, we also hope to offer the half-day workshop on self-study preparation in Baltimore. More information will be made available when the status of this workshop is confirmed.

Advisory Committee Role

Standard E1.3 requires programs to have an advisory committee. The recognized Clinical Supervisor at each affiliate must be a member of the committee. Programs may appoint additional people to the committee such as public members, current students, alumni or institutional administration representatives.

With the 2011 standards the JRCNMT no longer required in-person Advisory Committee meetings since communication technologies allow people to attend meetings and provide feedback without leaving work. This leaves multiple methods to gather input from the committee but what methods meet the intent of the standard?

One important aspect of having an Advisory Committee is to facilitate two-way communication between the program and committee members. This can be done with in-person meetings, confer-

ence calls, web meetings, and discussion boards. Though a newsletter is great for conveying program information to committee members, it is not a method of two-way communication and does not meet the intent of the standard.

An important function of a committee is to discuss issues, compare ideas with one another, and formulate plans and solutions to problems. A committee can only fulfill these functions if members communicate with one another, not just with the person running the meeting. This is why talking to clinical supervisors when visiting clinics does not substitute for a meeting of the Advisory Committee.

The JRCNMT encourages programs to recognize the value of an Advisory Committee and take advantage of the information and insight available when members work together for on-going improvement of a nuclear medicine technology educational program.



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SCOPE OF ACCREDITATION SERVICES

The JRCNMT is recognized by the Council on Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) to accredit post-secondary nuclear medicine technology programs offering certificate, associate and baccalaureate degrees. Programs must be located in the territorial United States, its protectorates and possessions and may be offered in a traditional or distance education format.

Reaccreditation 2015

The programs listed below will be undergoing reaccreditation in 2015. Signed, written third party testimony may be submitted to the JRCNMT regarding any nuclear medicine technology program undergoing accreditation review. Persons desiring to present third-party oral testimony at a board meeting must submit a written request. Third-party testimony, written and oral, must be limited to the educational program's compliance with JRCNMT *Accreditation Standards for Nuclear Medicine Technologist Education*. Please contact the JRCNMT office if you have questions on third party testimony.

Amarillo College	Amarillo, TX
Bluegrass Community & Technical College	Lexington KY
Caldwell Community College & Technical Institute	Hudson, NC
Delgado Community College	New Orleans, LA
GateWay Community College	Phoenix, AZ
Hillsborough Community College	Tampa, FL
Robert Morris University	Moon Township, PA
Southeast Technical Institute	Sioux Falls, SD
The University of Findlay	Findlay, OH
Triton College	River Grove, IL
University of the Incarnate Word	San Antonio, TX