

2021



# ASMIRT

## Code of Ethics

*Your profession. Your future.*



There are a number of protected titles for medical radiation practice. They include:

Medical Radiation Practitioner (MRP)

Diagnostic Radiographer (DR)

Medical Imaging Technologist (MIT)

Radiographer

Nuclear Medicine Scientist (NMS)

Nuclear Medicine Technologist (NMT)

Radiation Therapist (RT).

For the purposes of our documentation we use the broad descriptor Medical Radiation Practitioner (MRP) recognising that it covers a range of areas of practice.



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These guidelines are issued by the Australian Society of Medical Imaging and Radiation Therapy (ASMIRT) to guide and support members in the practice of their profession. These guidelines should be read in conjunction with the Constitution of ASMIRT. Any queries or comments on these guidelines and requests for further copies should be addressed to:

All correspondence to:

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The Australian Society of Medical Imaging and Radiation Therapy (ASMIRT) recognises its obligation and duty to identify and promote exemplary professional standards of practice, conduct and performance. Each member of the profession has a personal and professional responsibility to adhere to these standards.

1. The prime concern of the Medical Radiation Professional must be the welfare and safety of patient/clients, members of the healthcare team and the public.

#### MEDICAL RADIATION PROFESSIONALS:

2. Are personally accountable for their work, actions and professional conduct.
3. Provide services to the highest standard in keeping with the philosophy and mission of the profession and within the relevant standards, guidelines and codes of practice.
4. Only perform examinations which are justified and authorised in accordance with established or recognised criteria.
5. Do not commence a procedure until they are satisfied that it is appropriate and safe.
6. Alert health care / medical personnel responsible for the patient/client's care, of any medically significant findings according to their knowledge, scope of practice and expertise.
7. Respect a patient/client's right to privacy, including the confidentiality of health care information.
8. Ensure that their professional responsibilities and standards of practice are non-discriminatory and culturally safe.
9. Work and co-operate in a collaborative manner with members of the healthcare team.
10. Uphold the honour and dignity of the profession and don't engage in any activity that may bring the profession into disrepute.
11. Regard and observe laws and regulations applicable to their practice in their State / Territory jurisdiction.
12. Take responsibility for their own professional development to ensure the maintenance of the highest standards.
13. When undertaking research, observe the ethical principles and standards as determined by the relevant state, national and international research authorities.
14. Observe principles governing intellectual property, copyright and due acknowledgement in scientific publication, and openly declare all financial and non-financial interests in the course of reported scientific findings.
15. Maintain effective professional relationships and communication with patients/clients, colleagues and other health professionals.





### Value Statement 1

Members of ASMIRT will respect individuals' needs, values, culture and vulnerability in the provision of services.

#### Explanatory Statements

- Members of ASMIRT acknowledge the socio-political diversity in Australian society and ensure the provision of non-discriminatory, culturally safe services to all people.
- The relationship between members of ASMIRT and the community for whom they provide services includes respect, confidence, trust, and autonomy.
- Members of ASMIRT promote a professional relationship and maintain appropriate professional boundaries between themselves and persons for whom they provide services.
- Members of ASMIRT correspond and communicate with external stakeholders in a professional manner.

### Value Statement 2

Members of ASMIRT uphold the provision of quality services for all people and respect the rights of individuals to make informed choices in relation to services provided.

#### Explanatory Statements

- Members of ASMIRT ensure patients are competent to provide informed consent and shall advocate on the patient's behalf if required.
- Members of ASMIRT conduct all procedures, examinations and treatments in keeping with current radiation safety protocols and legislative standards.
- Members of ASMIRT practice only those procedures for which the member is qualified and has the capability to perform.
- All members will participate in Continuing Professional Development to maintain high professional standards.
- Members of ASMIRT promote, through the collaborative development and implementation of policies and procedures, the equitable use of available health resources according to the principle of justice.





### **Value Statement 3**

Members of ASMIRT will maintain confidentiality of information obtained in a professional capacity and will use professional judgement where there is a need to share information for the therapeutic benefit and safety of an individual.

#### Explanatory Statements

- Members must comply with mandatory reporting requirements according to their state or territory legislation.eg child abuse, domestic violence, elder abuse etc.
- Members are expected to fulfill their moral obligation to report instances of abuse of any form.
- Members of ASMIRT will respect a person's right to determine who will be provided with their personal information and in what detail.
- Members of ASMIRT will ensure confidentiality is maintained within the legalities of patient disclosure and the Privacy Act.
- Members of ASMIRT have an obligation to adhere to legislative requirements limiting access to any personal records.
- Members must exercise professional obligation/duty of care with regards to Personal Protective Equipment and the ethical obligation to protect the public.

### **Value Statement 4**

Members of ASMIRT fulfil the accountability and responsibility inherent in their roles.

#### Explanatory Statements

- Members of ASMIRT are accountable for their clinical decision making and have a moral and legal obligation to provide safe and competent service delivery.
- Members of ASMIRT acknowledge the collaborative nature of comprehensive health care, recognising and respecting the perspective and expertise of other health care professionals.
- Members of ASMIRT have a legal and an ethical responsibility to report instances of unsafe and unethical practice and behaviour.
- Members of ASMIRT promote the profession medical radiation science. Members of ASMIRT are encouraged to participate in the society's committees, branches and sub-branches in a responsible and professional manner.

