Policy Library

Trainees and Unaccredited Sites

Version: 1.1

Approved by: RANZCR Council

Date of approval: 5 November 2009, amended 30 November 2018

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Purpose

(a) This policy establishes the College's position regarding the assignment of accredited Radiology trainees of The Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Radiologists® (the College) to work at or for unaccredited sites.

1.2 Scope

- (a) Accredited Radiology trainees (*Trainees*) are trainees accepted by the College to the Radiodiagnosis specialist training program.
- (b) This policy refers to work at or for an unaccredited site including:
- (c) Rotation i.e. assignment to work on-site;
- (d) On-call work at or for that site; and
- (e) Reporting of cases transmitted from an unaccredited site.
- (f) This policy extends to all College training sites within Australia, New Zealand and Singapore.

1.3 Background

- (a) The College sets the standards of training and practice in Radiology and Radiation Oncology.
- (b) An accredited training site is a practice or department that has been accredited by the College for training. Accreditation status awarded by the College may be full accreditation, provisional, conditional or partial.
- (c) Where a practice or department is responsible for delivery of services that include multiple geographic locations or management units for the acquisition of images, the interpretation of images and the delivery of clinical services, each geographic location or management unit must gain accreditation to be deemed an accredited site.
- (d) Accreditation requirements include adequate supervision of trainees and provision of feedback to trainees on their performance.
- (e) An unaccredited site is:
- (f) a site which has not been granted accreditation by the College; or
- (g) a site which has lost accreditation.

2. WORK AT OR FOR UNACCREDITED SITES

2.1 Rotations to unaccredited sites

Trainees working at accredited sites may not be rotated to unaccredited sites under any circumstances.

2.2 Reporting on images submitted from unaccredited sites

Trainees located within an accredited site may report cases transmitted to them from unaccredited sites providing the following conditions are met:

2.2.1 Supervision

(a) A Radiologist must provide supervision to Trainees and check the Trainee's interpretation of the images and the report generated. This applies to all images that are being reported on regardless of their source.

2.2.2 Image Quality

- (a) Images submitted from unaccredited sites must be of sufficient quality to be interpreted and reported.
- (b) The Head of the Radiology Department at the accredited site must ensure that the images being transmitted from the non accredited site meet the same quality requirements as those generated from the accredited site.

2.2.3 On-call work

- (a) For Trainees rostered to work at night or out of hours (on weekends and/or public holidays) and report on images, the Trainee's work must be checked by a Radiologist the following morning and feedback provided to the trainee as required. It is the joint responsibility of the Director of Training and the Head of Department to ensure that these Trainees are sufficiently advanced in their training and have the required competencies to report on images overnight.
- (b) The Trainee working at night or out of hours (on weekends and/or public holidays) must be able to contact the consultant Radiologist on call to ask for advice on difficult or life threatening cases.

3. IMPACT ON TRAINEE PROGRESSION

- (a) The College will not recognise training time accrued by a Trainee at an unaccredited site
- (b) Work, training and experience accrued by a Trainee at an unaccredited site will not count towards training time.

4. RESPONSIBILITIES

It is the responsibility of the Head of Department and Director of Training to ensure that all sites within their Department, at which Trainees may be required to work, are accredited as training sites by the College.