

MQSA Requirements for the Interpreting Physician

MQSA Requirements for the Interpreting Physician (IP)

- Need to know the following:
 - Were you initially qualified?
 - Date of Completion from Residency
 - Interim Regulations-Prior to 4/28/1999
 - Final Regulations-After 4/28/1999
 - How many mammograms have you read in the last 24 months?

MQSA Requirements for the Interpreting Physician (IP)

- Initial Requirements
- Continuing Requirements
- Reestablishing

MQSA IP Initial Requirements

Interim Regulations (prior to 4/28/1999)

Valid State License (any state)

One of the following:

- Board Certification (ABR, AOBR or RCPSC)
- Two months of formal training

40 hours of CME in Mammography (attestation allowed if CMEs obtained prior to 10/1/94)

240 patient exams in any 6 month period
(attestation allowed if CMEs obtained prior to 10/1/94)

MQSA IP Initial Requirements

Final Regulations (after 4/28/1999)

Valid State License (any state)

One of the following:

- Board Certification (ABR, AOBR or RCPSC)
- Three months of formal training

60 hours Category 1 CME in mammography of which 15 earned in past 3 yrs.

Need one of the following:

- 240 patient exams in prior 6 month period
- 240 patients exams in any six month period of the last 2 years of residency if past boards at the first allowable time

For residence graduating 2014 or later:

- 240 patients exams in any six month period of the last 2 years of residency

MQSA IP Initial Requirements

Interim Regulations (prior to 4/28/1999)

Valid State License (any state)

One of the following:

- Board Certification (ABR, AOBR or RCPSC)
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Final Regulations (after 4/28/1999)

Valid State License (any state)

One of the following:

- Board Certification (ABR, AOBR or RCPSC)
- **Three months** of formal training

60 hours Category 1 CME in mammography of which 15 earned in past 3 yrs.

Need one of the following:

- 240 patient exams in prior 6 month period
- 240 patients exams in any six month period of the last 2 years of residency if past boards at the first allowable time

For residents graduating 2014 or later:

- 240 patients exams in any six month period of the last 2 years of residency

SAMPLE RESIDENCY LETTER – FINAL REGULATIONS

[Official Letterhead of Residency Program]

{..Date of Letter..}

To Whom It May Concern:

Dr. { name } successfully completed his/her residency in diagnostic radiology on { date }. During the period of his/her residency program { inclusive dates }, Dr. { name } received the following training and experience specific to mammography:

1.At least three months { or may include exact amount of training } of training in the interpretation of mammograms, including instruction in radiation physics, radiation effects, and radiation protection.

[NOTE to residency program director: You may delete this paragraph if the resident has passed the diagnostic radiology certifying examinations and become a diplomate of the American Board of Radiology (ABR), the American Osteopathic Board of Radiology (AOBR), or the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (RCPSC) before the end of this residency.]

2.At least 60 hours of documented continuing medical education in mammography.

[NOTE to residency program director: These 60 hours may be included in the three months of training described in #1. It does not have to be an additional 60 hours of training. This paragraph may be deleted if the three months of training is already documented in #1.]

3.At least eight hours each of training in {specify the mammographic modality/ies: screen-film mammography, full field digital mammography, and/or a digital breast tomosynthesis system}.

[NOTE to residency program director: These eight hours may be included in the three months of training described in #1 or the 60 hours described in #2; it does not have to be an additional 8 hours of training. If item #3 is not included in the letter or no mammographic modality is specified, it will be assumed that the resident received eight hours of training in full field digital mammography only.]

4. Read or interpreted, under the direct supervision of an interpreting physician, the mammograms from the examinations of at least 240 patients within the last 6-month period of the residency program { give dates of 6-month period },

or,

if the resident physician passed the certifying board examination in diagnostic radiology at the first allowable time, the 6-month period could have been any time within the last 2 years of the residency program { give dates of 6-month period }.

or,

if the resident physician completed the residency training in June 2014 or later, the 6-month period could have been any time within the last 2 years of the residency program { give dates of 6-month period }

[NOTE: The “first allowable time” means the earliest time that a resident physician is eligible to take the certifying examination.]

[Signed by an official of the Residency Program]

[Must include signing official's title: e.g., Chairman of Program, Director of Residency Education, Director of Mammography Section]

MQSA Requirements for the Interpreting Physician (IP)

- Initial Requirements
- Continuing Requirements
- Reestablishing

IP Continuing Requirements

- Continuing Education
 - 15 Category 1 CME/36 months
- Continuing Experience
 - 960 exams/24 months
- New Modality Training
 - 8 hours of training in each new mammography modality, i.e. screen/film, FFDM, DBT

MQSA Requirements for the Interpreting Physician (IP)

- Initial Requirements
- Continuing Requirements
- Reestablishing
 - Continuing Education
 - Continuing Experience

Reestablishing

- Continuing Education
 - Must obtain a sufficient number of additional category 1 CME in mammography to bring the previous 36 month total to 15 before resuming independent interpretation

Reestablishing

- Continuing Experience

(under the direct supervision of a MQSA qualified IP)

- Interpret or multiread at least 240 exams
- Interpret or multiread a sufficient number of exams to bring the previous 24 month total to 960 exams
 - whichever is less
- Must bring the previous 24 month total to 960 within **6 months** of reestablishing
 - New cases
 - Prior cases
 - Keep a detailed log – date, identifier, agreement with interpretation of record

Breast Imaging Boot Camp

- If IP interprets 240 mammograms can use to meet MQSA initial experience qualifications or for reestablishing continuing experience
- 8 hours new modality training for FFDM/Tomo under MQSA
- 30.25 Hours of CME in mammography

Where to go for Help

- ACR Accreditation Portal www.acr.org
- ACR Breast Imaging Hotline 800-227-6440
- [MQSA Regulations and Small Entity Compliance Guide](#)
- [FDA Frequent Asked Questions on DBT](#)
- MQSA Hotline 800-838-7715
- Pam Platt – pplatt@acr.org