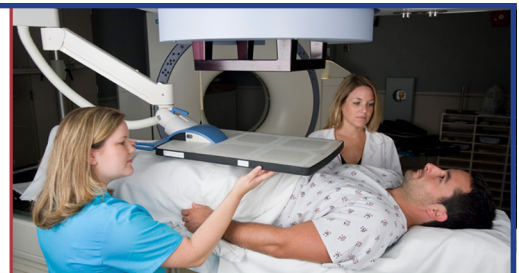




USRT

U.S. Radiologic
Technologists Study



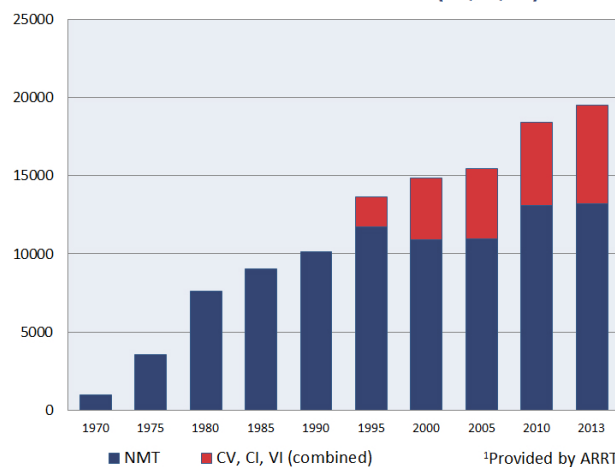
FLUOROSCOPICALLY-GUIDED AND RADIOISOTOPE PROCEDURES FOLLOW-UP SURVEYS

As medicine and technology advance, the use of *fluoroscopically-guided* and *radioisotope* procedures is expanding.

A considerable increase in the use of invasive fluoroscopically-guided interventional radiologic procedures has raised concerns about the health effects of radiation exposure from these procedures on staff and patients.

The number of certifications registered annually by the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists in cardiovascular interventional and nuclear medicine modalities has also been increasing over time.

Number of ARRT Certifications Registered by Year¹
for Nuclear Medicine (NMT) and
Cardio-Vascular Interventional (CV, CI, VI)



The USRT study is in a unique position to evaluate the health effects on radiologic technologists (RTs) by surveying USRT Study participants about these procedures. Previously, our surveys collected fairly general information about imaging procedures that a technologist may have performed.

We recently developed a new USRT survey that focuses on exposures and work practices (personal protection, monitoring, etc.) associated with selected *fluoroscopically-guided* and *nuclear medicine* procedures.

Since you reported on Fourth Survey that you assisted with or performed fluoroscopically-guided or nuclear medicine procedures, we are sending you the follow-up survey to learn more about your work with these procedures.

Information from this survey will be used to help us understand potential health risks that may be related to working with these higher dose procedures. The results will inform clinical imaging practice and training in the future to protect health and minimize radiation exposure.

Thank you in advance for your continued participation!

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

Between 1980 and 2006, in the United States²:

- There has been a six-fold increase in annual effective dose per person in the United States from radiologic and nuclear medicine procedures.
- Ten times as many radiologic procedures are performed per year.
- Two and a half times as many nuclear medicine procedures are performed per year.

GREATER use of medical radiation means that current technologists are performing MORE procedures or MORE technologists are working with these procedures or both.

² Mettler FA, et al. Radiology: 2009 253: 520-531

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