



Contact: Julia Lee or Jessica McLane Gann  
Phone: 800-541-9754 or 301-738-8401  
E-mail: [Communications@ardms.org](mailto:Communications@ardms.org)  
Website: [www.ARDMS.org](http://www.ARDMS.org)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **ARDMS Introduces New Registered Musculoskeletal Sonographer™ (RMSKS™) Credential**

ROCKVILLE, MD (June 2, 2015) – In January of 2015, the American Registry for Diagnostic Medical Sonography® (ARDMS®) committed to review the **RMSK®** certification and determine how ARDMS can respond to the growing and diverse field of MSK imaging. ARDMS announced today the launch of the Registered Musculoskeletal Sonographer™ (**RMSKS™**) credential. A separate musculoskeletal-sonographer examination written by and for sonographers, the **RMSKS™** credential is part of a larger initiative to expand and customize the MSK ultrasound assessments within the medical community.

The administration of the first RMSKS™ credentialing examination will be in the fall of 2015.

For more information about the RMSKS™ credential, visit [www.ARDMS.org/RMSKS](http://www.ARDMS.org/RMSKS).

“Musculoskeletal imaging is a game-changer for the medical profession--we knew that for certain when we first introduced the certification,” said Thomas D. Shipp, MD, RDMS, Chair of the ARDMS Board of Directors. “As interest increased in MSK certifications from many different types of users, we saw a greater need for tailored assessments like the **RMSKS™**. The reach of ultrasound imaging is further expanding into new medical specialties and so is ARDMS.”

Over the last five months, ARDMS collected over 900 responses from the **RMSKS™** Job Task Analysis (JTA) Survey. The findings from this research coupled with meetings and feedback with related health and medical associations prompted the development of the dedicated sonographer MSK certification. As the organization continues to research and evaluate MSK imaging, there may be a need for specialized exams for advanced care providers such as nurse practitioners, physician assistants, physical therapists and others with an expanded scope of MSK imaging.

“Because we value our Registrants’ perspective, we asked the ARDMS community to contribute to the JTA survey--and they delivered,” continued Shipp. “As the conversation continues, it will drive and shape the future of our certification programs.”

To understand further how the new certification affects Registrants that have already earned the **RMSK®** credential, visit [www.ARDMS.org/sonographerMSK](http://www.ARDMS.org/sonographerMSK).

“Introducing a new certification in an emerging field has been a learning experience for us,” said Shipp. “We now have a trusted model to test the demand, content, and viability of future credentials. We’ll continue to closely monitor the adoption of musculoskeletal certifications and respond to the unique needs of all healthcare providers who use ultrasound.”

The American Registry for Diagnostic Medical Sonography® (ARDMS®), incorporated in June 1975, is an independent, nonprofit organization that administers examinations and awards credentials in the areas of diagnostic medical sonography, diagnostic cardiac sonography, vascular technology, physicians’ vascular interpretation, musculoskeletal sonography and midwifery ultrasound. ARDMS credentialing programs (RDMS, RDCS, RVT and RPVI) are accredited by ANSI-ISO 17024. ARDMS has nearly 90,000 certified individuals in the U.S., Canada, and throughout the world and is the recognized international standard in sonography credentialing.

###