



Registry Reports

Quarterly Newsletter for ARDMS Registrants

A Message From the Chair

You may recall in the [winter edition](#) of *Registry Reports*, I shared with you the process ARDMS undertakes to develop a new examination. In the past few months, every department at the ARDMS has made notable strides in the development of the new Musculoskeletal (MSK) sonography credential. I'd like to tell you a little more about the development of this newest credentialing examination.



- In December 2009, based on the results of the 2008 market needs analysis survey, the ARDMS Board of Directors approved the development of a MSK sonography credentialing examination.
- A Job Task Analysis (JTA) Committee has been appointed, comprising of Sonographers, Radiologists, Rheumatologists, Podiatrists, Physical Therapists and Physiatrists, and is working to develop a JTA survey. The survey, which will be distributed to the MSK sonography community, documents job/practice tasks in the performance of MSK sonography and will determine the content outline for the MSK examination.
- The MSK credentialing examination will be one 4-hour examination (to include physics) with approximately 200 items (questions).
- An expanded list of application prerequisites will be developed so the diverse group of sonographers, physicians and other medical professionals using MSK sonography may take the examination.
- The MSK credentialing examination will award a specific credential – the name of which has not yet been determined.
- The content outline for the MSK credentialing examination will be released in mid-2011.
- Items (questions) for the MSK credentialing examination will be developed and reviewed by subject matter experts throughout 2011.
- A pilot version of the MSK credentialing examination will be administered worldwide in proctored testing centers, projected in early/mid-2012.
- ARDMS expects to release the formal MSK credentialing examination in proctored global testing centers by mid/late-2012.

Please visit ARDMS.org/MSK if you are interested in learning more about the new ARDMS MSK credentialing examination, participating in the MSK Job Task Analysis (JTA) survey, or expressing your interest in the opportunity to write questions (items) for the MSK examination in the future. Also, watch for updates and articles in upcoming editions of *Registry Reports* and *NewsWire* as well as postings on the ARDMS.org website.

Have a wonderful rest of your summer.

Sincerely,

Patricia Prince, RDMS, RVT, RT
Chair, ARDMS Board of Directors

Summer 2010

Inside This Issue:

2...Oregon Sonography Licensure Law

2...2011 Renewal Information

3...Spotlight on a Sonographer: Joy Guthrie

4...Ultrasound Legacy: Dr. Richard A. Meyer

4...ARDMS Policies Update: Retired Registry Status

5...ARDMS' Item Writer Training Seminar - Call for Volunteers

5...Fast Facts About the ARDMS Recertification Assessment Program

5...Take Steps to Ensure You Get ARDMS E-mails

ARDMS
51 Monroe Street, PE 1
Rockville, MD 20850-2400

www.ARDMS.org

Oregon Sonography Licensure Law

As of July 1, 2010, the Oregon Board of Medical Imaging (OBMI) will license Sonography as Oregon becomes the first state to do so. The following information can be found on the [OBMI website](#).

Any person who operates sonographic equipment in the state of Oregon must be licensed. All medical imaging licensees in Oregon must be credentialed by a credentialing organization in a medical imaging modality recognized by the OBMI.

The appropriate license applications are available online at www.oregon.gov/OBMI, under the Applications link. Click on the appropriate imaging modality and then on the specific application needed. Individuals who hold a credential will complete the Permanent Initial application for their appropriate modality(s).

The following are some quick bullet points for licensure:

- Download the Permanent Initial Sonographer License application and complete every field or question.
- Attach a colored photograph approximately 2 inches by 2 inches (similar to a passport photo).
- Calculate the appropriate fee using the online Fee Calculator and enclose a personal or business check, money order or cashiers check for the amount. Checks are made out to OBMI. The OBMI does not accept cash or credit cards for initial licensure.
- Attach a copy of your registry registration card indicating you are current with CE and hold a current credential in the license modality(s) you are applying for.

If the applicant or existing licensee has a criminal history that the OBMI has not yet addressed, then a letter of explanation, all court and police documents must be included with the application. Applicants and licensees with a criminal history are required to appear before the OBMI for license approval.

If you are currently licensed with the OBMI as a Radiologic Technologist, Radiation Therapist or both, then complete the appropriate application for the new modality you wish to add to your licensure (modality applications are part of your permanent record with the OBMI). In addition, complete the Duplicate License Request Form and enclose it with your modality application and the \$10.00 fee for each copy you need. For more information, please call the OBMI at 971-673-0215.




2011 Renewal Is Coming!

The online payment opens in September 2010. Check ARDMS.org/MYARDMS for updates!

Remember, the two requirements for maintaining ARDMS credentials:

1. Pay your annual renewal fee - \$60 for general and \$90 for RPVI
2. Earn a minimum of 30 ARDMS-accepted CMEs during your three-year CME period.



Stay in Touch With ARDMS!

Log on to ARDMS.org/MYARDMS to verify and update your contact information.



Visit ARDMS.org for the latest news, forms, recertification information, CME Audit, Renewal, volunteer opportunities and more!

Spotlight on a Sonographer: Joy Guthrie

ARDMS Credentials: RDMS (AB, BR, NE, OBGYN), RDCS (AE, FE, PE), RVT (VT)

ARDMS Registrant Since: 1988

Current Position: Ultrasound Supervisor



The Great Wall of China and the Green Monster at Fenway Park in Boston can be counted among the “great walls” of our world. Now we can add another notable wall to the list – the ARDMS Wall of Excellence at the Community Regional Medical Center (CRMC) in Fresno, CA (see picture right.)

This newest addition displays the ARDMS certification certificates for all 24 sonographers who work at CRMC.

In January 2009, Joy Guthrie, the newly hired Ultrasound Supervisor at CRMC, embarked on the ambitious goal of having 100% of the sonographers earn ARDMS credentials for the specialties they practice. Fifteen months and 31 examinations later, that milestone has been achieved. “When I started at CRMC, there were 24 individual sonographers; now we are one TEAM,” Joy said recently.

ARDMS wanted to get the story behind this tremendous accomplishment, and who better to tell it than Joy herself.

ARDMS: How has your department and the care provided to your patients changed now that all the CRMC sonographers are ARDMS certified?

Joy: The sense of pride among the sonography team is palpable and they now realize that no goal is unobtainable when they are willing to try. It has also provided a sense of unity and a commitment to continued education. We had sonographers who earned ARDMS credentials for the first time and others who stepped-up to obtain additional credentials and/or specialties. The achievement was announced on our hospital website (www.communitymedical.org/crmc.htm) and now the entire hospital is aware of our collective accomplishment. In addition, the team now has a weekly “lunch and learn” session to spotlight cases from each sonographer and to provide in-depth training in new areas of interest. Even our radiologists have commented on the vast improvement in our scanning and attention to detail, resulting in better patient outcomes.

ARDMS: What were the highlights and challenges you and your team experienced during the 15-month journey for all 24 sonographers to earn ARDMS credentials?

Joy: The highlight of this journey was the sonography team’s willingness to seek additional knowledge with no financial incentive or gain. The pitfalls were arranging multiple registry review sessions to help the staff achieve this goal. These sessions were held after hours and the sonographers were not paid for these sessions. The other staff members had to “cover” for those who needed assistance during these sessions.

ARDMS: What advice would you give to other sonography departments looking to make the same commitment of having 100% of the sonography staff ARDMS certified?

Joy: You must have the backing of the administration to set a deadline, set concrete goals, empower the employees, and help to instill the spirit and will to do this. Try to be the “help” not the hammer and assist them to meet their potential.

ARDMS: Joy, why did you choose the profession of sonography?

Joy: Sonography is more than a job to me, always has been, always will be. It has always been my belief that “there is no room for mediocrity in medicine” and that ARDMS has provided a pathway to help fulfill that motto. I am ARDMS certified in each area that I practice and feel that the patients I serve deserve that commitment. Sonography is also an amazing combination of art and science. It is unique in that each patient, exam and encounter is distinctly different. It allows you to put forth your knowledge of anatomy and pathophysiology and play a vital role in making the appropriate diagnosis to present to the interpreting physician. No matter how bad your day is, it puts into perspective the human suffering that you encounter, and how your smile and touch can make a world of difference to an ailing patient. My role as an educator has allowed me to see young minds molded and shaped into caring and incredibly talented sonographers. My career has been a testament that it is good to “pay it forward,” and I cannot express how proud I am of my wonderful team of sonographers.



Front row left to right: Alma Luna, Joy Guthrie, Georgia Lambert, Gabriella Salazar **Back row left to right:** Charlotte Garcia, Ashley Fry, Carla Savoia, Claudia Hernandez, Sally Lai, Michael Garcia, Todd Mertens, Pam Denton. Photos courtesy of Joy Guthrie.

Not pictured: Pamela Cassidy, Pam Burdick, Savuth Kem, Kristina Brady, Kristen Swarts, May Xiong, Colombe McGowen, Debby Wall, Theresa Lara, Yolanda Alveraz, Nancy Contreras, Heather Hibner.

Ultrasound Legacy: Dr. Richard A. Meyer



Richard A. Meyer, MD
Photo courtesy of
Cincinnati Children's
Hospital Medical
Center

As Dr. Richard Meyer hangs up his lab coat with his retirement, he can be assured that his hard work and contribution to the field of sonography and ARDMS will not be forgotten. In this series of "Ultrasound Legacy," ARDMS highlights Dr. Meyer's stellar medical career and dedication to developing a path for medical professionals to practice echocardiography.

After graduating from medical school in 1964, Dr. Meyer began his career with a fellowship at the Children's Hospital Medical Center in Cincinnati, Ohio. Throughout his career, he developed a passion for pediatric cardiology. Dr. Meyer has spent his entire career developing and promoting the use of echocardiography in infants, children and adults.

In the early 1970s, ARDMS was a very small group of dedicated sonography professionals who put together a test with the hopes to standardize and improve the care of patients by those who used

ultrasound for medical diagnosis. After a few years of ARDMS being run out of Seattle, Dr. Meyers and Joan Korfhagen had the foresight and willingness to create a home for ARDMS in Cincinnati where it was based in the Vernon Manor Hotel and in 1975 incorporated ARDMS in the state of Ohio. In fact, ARDMS is still an Ohio corporation although our headquarters has been in Maryland since 1995.

Though Dr. Meyer has had an exciting successful career as a cardiologist, he has also served as the president of the American Institute of Ultrasound in Medicine and the Society for Pediatric Echocardiography. In addition to holding the presidency of these two highly regarded associations, Dr. Meyer is also an Adjunct Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Cincinnati and director of the Congenital Heart Disease Clinic at University Hospital.

ARDMS recognizes Dr. Meyer for all of his hard work and dedication to the field of sonography.

ARDMS Policies Update: Retired Registry Status

ARDMS has updated the policies and procedures surrounding the management of Registrants who are interested in, or hold, a Retired Status with ARDMS.

Any sonography professional who wishes to maintain his or her association with ARDMS, but is no longer actively working, practicing, teaching or supervising in the field, may request a status change from "Active" to "Retired." A retired status does NOT allow individuals to use any ARDMS credential designations. Use of any ARDMS credential, trademark or copyright materials associated with their name is strictly prohibited.

Retired status is permanent and explicitly states that an individual does not hold Active Registry status. If Retired status individuals wish to regain their credential(s), they must apply, pay for and pass all applicable ARDMS examinations. Retired status Registrants have a reduced yearly fee of \$10 USD and receive *Registry Reports* and other informational mailings.

If you are interested in requesting a status change to Retired, please follow the instructions below:

1. Complete the [ARDMS Retired Status Attestation form](#) to request a status change to Retired.
2. You must (1) hold an Active Status registration, (2) have no unresolved adverse disciplinary actions imposed at the time of the request for retired status and (3) be in full compliance with ARDMS CME requirements, including successfully completing the CME Audit, if selected.
3. Once an [ARDMS Retired Status Attestation form](#) is submitted, a Registrant's designation will be changed to "Retired" in the Registrants record and reflected in the ARDMS online directory of Retired Status Registrants.

For more information about Retired status or requesting a change from Active to Retired, please visit ARDMS.org or call 800-541-9754 to speak to a Registrant Services coordinator.

ARDMS' Item Writer Training Seminar —Call for Participants

ARDMS will be hosting a special Item Writing Training seminar at the upcoming Society of Diagnostic Medical Sonography (SDMS) annual conference in Denver, CO. The seminar will be held on Friday, October 15, 2010 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. MT at the Colorado Convention Center (location of the SDMS meeting).

The seminar will explore the vital role volunteer Item Writers play in the development of ARDMS examination questions (items) and provide an overview of how to write effective items. As a trained volunteer Item Writer, you may be invited to draft questions for ARDMS examinations. Each time, you have the flexibility to choose whether or not to participate.

In return for your time, ARDMS will credit you with one CME point on your ARDMS transcript and you will be entered into a drawing to win one of two \$50 Visa gift cards! Also, ARDMS will serve lunch to seminar participants.

For more information or to RSVP to the event, send an e-mail to communications@ardms.org with the subject line "ARDMS Item Writer Event."

Once in Denver, you may also RSVP by stopping by the ARDMS booth # 418 located in the exhibit hall of the convention center*.

*Participation in this seminar is limited to 100 ARDMS Registrants, and spaces will be filled on a first-come first-serve basis.

Fast Facts About the ARDMS Recertification Assessment Program:

- Log on to ARDMS.org/Recertification for the latest program updates.
- First Recertification examinations will be offered in 2019.
- There will be no charge for Registrants who pass the recertification examination(s) on the first attempt.
- The recertification examinations will be web based and available online (not at a testing center) for Registrants to take during the last three years of a 10-year recertification assessment period.
- Registrants may consult reference materials while taking the examinations and will have ample time to take and pass the examinations.
- Registrants will be required to take a recertification examination in each specialty area for which they hold active status. There will not be a separate physics recertification examination.
- The recertification assessment program is being developed to meet a required standard of the International Standards Organization (ISO) and the American National Standards Institute* (ANSI), the accreditor of ARDMS.

Visit and bookmark the Recertification Assessment section of the ARDMS website at ARDMS.org/Recertification.

[Click here to read the complete Registry Reports issue on Recertification.](#)

*ARDMS has earned the prestigious ANSI-ISO 17024 accreditation for certifying bodies from the International Organization for Standardization (ISO). Accreditation is granted through the American National Standards Institute (ANSI).

Take Steps to Ensure You Get ARDMS E-Mails

Due to the growing problem of unsolicited and unwanted commercial emails, many web mail services (i.e. Yahoo, Hotmail, etc.) and e-mail applications (i.e. Outlook 2003, Mozilla Thunderbird, etc.) have taken measures to automatically filter bulk e-mails. Unfortunately, these filters end up blocking many newsletters and legitimate e-mails in addition to spam. ARDMS newsletters and updates are not immune, and so these filters may incorrectly block our e-mails, preventing it from ever reaching your inbox.

To avoid further problems, [click here](#) and simply follow the steps outlined to help ensure that you receive important e-mail notices from the ARDMS. Even if you are currently receiving our e-mails, we still advise you to follow these recommendations as a way to prevent future problems. Thank you for your time.



Visit the ARDMS website

ARDMS.org



ARDMS
51 Monroe Street, PE 1
Rockville, MD 20850-2400

Registry Reports - Summer 2010

Send inquiries to communications@ardms.org

© 2010 ARDMS *Registry Reports*, published quarterly by the American Registry for Diagnostic Medical Sonography (ARDMS). All rights reserved. May not be reproduced in whole or part without written permissions. The ideas and opinions expressed herein do not necessarily reflect those of ARDMS.

Mark Your Calendars! 2010 ARDMS Exhibit Schedule

American College of Emergency
Physicians Scientific Assembly
Las Vegas, NV
September 28-October 1
Booth #: 1916
www.acep.org

SDMS Annual Conference
Denver, CO
October 14-17
Booth #: 418
www.sdms.org/meetings
Volunteer opportunity available. Click here for more information.

Vascular InterVentional Advances
(VIVA)
Las Vegas, NV
October 20-23
Booth #: 104
www.vivapvd.com



The leading sonography career website.

Find sonography positions with a nationwide listing of jobs that allows you to search any location in the country.

Exclusive career website of the ARDMS.

