**DIVISION SCOPE OF SERVICE**

**Division:** WEST FLORIDA

**DHP Classification:** DIAGNOSTIC IMAGING PHYSICIST

**Name of Dependent Healthcare Professional (DHP):**

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**Diagnostic Imaging Physicist**

*X-Ray (Radiographic and Fluoroscopic), Radiation Protection Surveys, Nuclear Medicine, MRI, CT, Cone-Beam CT, Mammography*

The Diagnostic Imaging Physicist must have equivalent qualifications, competence and function, in the same role as employed individuals performing the same or similar services at the facility, as defined by a facility job description.

**Definition of Care or Service:**
The Diagnostic Imaging Physicist uses their knowledge of imaging science and medicine, with appropriate analytical techniques, to collect information and create reports to document the quality and safety of diagnostic imaging equipment. They may also provide professional consultation about safe use and regulatory requirements for MRI safety, radiation safety, occupational dosimetry, and radioactive materials. They consult with a wide range of medical, technical, and administrative staff. *They will not have direct patient contact and are not involved in hands-on patient care.*

They use a variety of specialized instrumentation and an understanding of clinical operations, to conduct periodic quality assurance (QA) surveys on diagnostic imaging equipment and some radiation therapy equipment (no patients).

These QA surveys, ensure image quality and patient and operator safety. The QA surveys are part of the required documentation for accreditation; accreditation compliance is required by various organizations, such as the ACR, the Joint Commission, or the Center for Medicare Services.

Specifically, their QA testing shall include: Mammography, Computed Tomography (CT), or Cone-Beam CT systems AND X-Ray (including radiographic rooms, R&F (radiographic and fluoroscopic) rooms, C-Arms, portable X-ray units, Protective equipment inspections (E.G., aprons, etc.) and Radiation Protection Surveys, Cardiac Cath systems, Interventional Radiology systems, Bi-Plane systems, and Cystography systems), Dental X-ray units, Bone Densitometers, Nuclear Medicine Gamma Cameras, Dose Calibrators, Radiation Survey Instrumentation, PET scanners, MRI scanners, and Ultrasound systems.

The Scope of Service may include:
- Conducting quality assurance surveys for the imaging equipment listed above, including: testing of image quality and machine performance, quality control and calibration, and safety surveys.
- Conduct Radiation Protection Surveys.
- Provide guidance, within their scope of practice, at radiation safety committee meetings or to hospital staff or physicians regarding radiation exposure and safety.
- Training hospital staff on performance of routine QC techniques, Radiation Safety, HazMat Shipping and Handling, or MRI safety.
- Supports Radiation Safety Committee and Radiation Right as a Radiation Safety Officer or as an invited advisor for consultation on Radiation Safety and imaging safety as requested.
- Demonstrates Clinical and Service excellence behaviors to include code of HCA conduct core fundamentals in daily interactions with patients, families, co-workers and physicians.

**Setting(s): (no direct patient contact)**

Healthcare facilities including but not limited to: hospitals, outpatient treatment facilities, imaging

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centers, and physician practices at:
  o Imaging department, or
  o Radiology department, or
  o Operating Room department (not during operations), or
  o Cardiac Cath department (not during operations), or

Oncology Departments (only Imaging Equipment surveys shall be performed - such as a dose calibrator calibration or PET scanner surveys).

Supervision:
  - Supervision by or Imaging/Radiology Director, or the Radiation Safety Officer, or the Radiation Safety Committee.

Evaluator: Radiology/Imaging Department Director or designee.

Qualifications:
  - M.S. or equivalent, or Ph.D. or equivalent
  - Board Eligible/Board Certified or Education/Experience
    o Certifications Accepted: American Board of Radiology, or American Board of Medical Physics in Diagnostic Radiology or Medical Imaging, or equivalent
    o Education/Experience: Graduate degree in medical physics, radiologic physics, physics, or other relevant physical science or engineering discipline from an accredited institution, and, formal coursework in the biological sciences with at least: 1 course in biology or radiation biology, and 1 course in anatomy, physiology, or similar topics related to the practice of medical physics, AND 3 years of documented experience in a clinical environment.

There are several external organizations that set the standards for a Qualified Medical Physicist (QMP) – the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), the Joint Commission (JC), and the American College of Radiology (ACR) all have similar standards that define a QMP. Additionally, some states require licensing (Florida is one of those states). A Diagnostic Imaging Physicist is a QMP if they meet the following as noted by the ACR for CT (most rigorous conditions):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Qualifications</th>
<th>Medical Physicist</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Initial</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Board Certified</strong></td>
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<td>Certified in Diagnostic Radiological Physics or Radiological Physics by the American Board of Radiology; in Diagnostic Imaging Physics by the American Board of Medical Physics; or in Diagnostic Radiology Physics by the Canadian College of Physicists in Medicine OR</td>
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<td><strong>Not Board Certified in Required Subspeciality</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Graduate degree in medical physics, radiologic physics, physics, or other relevant physical science or engineering discipline from an accredited institution, and</td>
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<td>• Formal coursework in the biological sciences with at least 1 course in biology or radiation biology, and</td>
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<td>• 3 years of documented experience in a clinical CT environment OR</td>
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<td><strong>Grandfathered</strong></td>
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<td>Conducted surveys of at least 3 CT units between January 1, 2007 and January 1, 2010</td>
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<tr>
<td>Continuing Experience</td>
<td>Upon renewal, 2 CT unit surveys in prior 24 months</td>
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<tr>
<td>Continuing Education</td>
<td>Upon renewal, 15 CEU/CME (1/2 Cat 1) in prior 36 months (must include credits pertinent to the accredited modality)</td>
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**DIVISION SCOPE OF SERVICE**

**State Requirements:**
- Licensure/Registration (where required): State of Florida license (DRP, MNP, MHP, or MPT)

**Experience:**
- 2 yrs. or more experience as Radiation Protection Technician, or a Radiologic Technologist, or Nuclear Medicine Technologist, or Diagnostic Imaging Physicist Associate, or
- A Medical Physicist In Training under the supervision of a Diagnostic Imaging Physicist

**Competencies:** (not all Diagnostic Physicist Associates will have all the below competencies, each person shall have a competencies checklist that identifies their individual competencies):
- ACR/TJC Nuclear Medicine Gamma Camera Surveys as appropriate
- ACR/TJC Nuclear Medicine License Support (calibrations/surveys/inventories) as appropriate
- ACR/TJC PET Scanner Surveys as appropriate
- ACR/TJC MRI Surveys as appropriate
- X-Ray/Fluoro Surveys as appropriate
- Cardiac Cath/Interventional Radiology Surveys as appropriate
- Ultrasound Surveys as appropriate
- Radiation Protection Surveys as appropriate
- Infection Prevention
  - Practices consistent hand hygiene
  - Uses personal protective equipment (PPE)
  - Required immunizations per DHP Division requirements
  - Complies with Isolation precautions

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DHP Printed Name: ______________________ DHP Signature: ______________________

Company/Vendor: ________________________ Date: ______________________

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