

Radiation Advisory Council Report for OHFAMA

Focus: General X-ray Machine Operator
(GXMO)

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RAC/REC Report 2016

- As part of ongoing 5-year rule reviews, the REC worked on Chapters/Rules relating to:
 - Radiation therapy rules
 - CT scan operator licensure (for x-ray and nuclear medicine technologist)
 - Revision of the entire Industrial (now Non-medical) Radiation Chapter
- Little relevance to Podiatric Medicine
- GXMO Exam Committee Review took place September 2, 2016

GXMO Exam Report 2016

- In 2015, number of issues identified:
 - Questions poorly written/poor performance
 - Inequity of content per exam
 - Complaint of overall exam difficulty
- Actions/Solutions:
 - Questions rewritten and/or deleted
 - Entire syllabus revised and simplified; physics de-emphasized
 - Pool subsections correlated with syllabus
 - Number of questions in each subsection equalized
 - Digital & film receptors to be tested equally

GXMO Exam Report 2016

- Under direction of Chad Lehman, Health Physics Supervisor of ODH Bureau of Radiation Safety, GXMO Exam Review Committee meeting took place on September 2, 2016
- By request of Chiropractic Board, Chiropractic Radiologist representative added to the review
- *Specific charge to review:*
 - Monthly exam performance via standard metrics
 - Analysis of all poorly performing questions
 - Review of entire exam question pool
 - Content review - ODH Guidance Document

GXMO Exam Report 2016

- Findings – September 2nd Meeting:
 - Monthly exam performance improved in 2nd quarter of 2016, then paradoxically **regressed** in Fall of 2016
- Exam Review:
 - Poorly performing questions identified, analyzed, then revised or deleted
 - General trend to simplify all questions
 - Debate over relevance of film/film processing questions in future
 - Minor revisions to syllabus/guidance document

Overall Committee Conclusions

- Exams valid (via Kuder Richardson/KR 20 metric)
- Exam questions **test** basic knowledge
- Exam difficulty **gauged as being** simple and relevant
- Exam question content balanced **with respect to** ODH syllabus/guidance document
- Overall performance **variable in 2016**
- **Poor performance most likely related to:**
 - Specific materials and methodologies employed by educational programs (some Ohio educational programs consistently out-perform others)
 - Candidate variability (science background, etc.)

General Information - GXMO Licensure Rules (ODH Chapter 72 rules)

- Must have proof of education to take exam
- Initial license 1 year; 2 years thereafter
- Renewal of GXMO license requires completion of 12 continuing education (CE) hours over 2 year period before license expiration date *(ARRT requires 24 CEs)*
- No longer need to retake didactic course if GXMO license lapses but is renewed within 30 days of expiration, or cannot pass didactic exam within a given one year

Key Aspects, Last Revision GXMO Licensure Rules (ODH Chapter 72 rules)

- Renewal of GXMO license requires completion of 12 continuing education (CE) hours before license expiration date (12 hrs. over 2 year period (ARRT requires 24 CEs)
- *No longer need to retake didactic exam if GXMO license is allowed to lapse*
- *Unlimited exam retakes* without having to redo the didactic course within one year