

# New CERT Program Offers Unparalleled CE Opportunities to RTs

As today's growing responsibilities and tightened workforce stretches the time constraints of most radiologists, radiologic technologists (RTs) play an increasingly critical role in the efficient delivery of quality imaging services. But staying current in a profession characterized by rapid technical advances has always been a challenge for RTs.

Recognizing the importance of RTs to the radiology team, the ARRS will introduce Continuing Education for Radiologic Technologists (CERT) in January 2008. Available by subscription (free to ARRS technologist members), CERT will serve as a repository for Category A learning activities based on articles from the *American Journal of Roentgenology (AJR)*, enhanced and expanded specifically for technologists by noted RT educator Eugene D. Frank.

Each month a new CERT lesson will be available on the ARRS Web site ([www.arrs.org](http://www.arrs.org)), offering 24/7 access to the material. Accessibility is an important factor for RTs who may live and work far away from areas where CE opportunities are easily available, particularly in specialties such as CT and mammography. The program will launch in January with 12 lessons, with a new lesson produced each month.

Each online lesson will provide an easy-to-use program menu featuring:

- Required reading
- Post-test (CE questions)
- Evaluation
- Opportunity to print the CE certificate

ARRS technologist members will have access to bonus features including an online CE repository, which will offer the opportunity to track CE credits, sort by specialty, or print certificates.

The lineup of CERT titles includes:

- CT of Pancreatic Carcinoma: Two Original Research Studies
- CT in Trauma Radiography: The Acetabulum, Tibia, and Scaphoid
- CT: Radiation Dose Update
- Women's Imaging: Two Original

Mammography Research Studies

- Women's Imaging: Viewing Monitors and Dose Reduction Research
- Women's Imaging: Computer-Assisted Detection, Current Research
- CT Colonography: Current Research

In August 2007, the ARRS was approved by the Board of Trustees of the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists as a recognized continuing education evaluation mechanism, making the Society an authorized provider of CE credit. Each CERT lesson will offer one Category A credit.

## A Natural Progression

Given the growing role of RTs in today's radiologic workplace, it was a natural development for the ARRS to embrace these individuals and provide them with tailored learning opportunities to enhance their skills.

"RTs are working more closely with radiologists today as many examinations and procedures have become more 'team based,' with both sharing equally in the procedure," noted Frank, editor of the CERT program, citing the team-driven modalities of CT, MRI, and mammography. "The ARRS, in particular the *AJR*, has a reputation for providing timely research to radiologists, covering all aspects of the radiologic practice. Today, RTs need these *AJR* articles as much as the radiologists."

Frank's involvement in the CERT program is noteworthy given his experience and reputation as an RT educator. Having spent 31 years at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn., the last 21 as director and assistant professor in the radiography program at the clinic's College of Medicine, Frank is also director of the radiography program at Riverland Community College in Austin, Minn. In addition to his teaching duties, Frank has published 11 manuscripts in professional journals and has authored or coauthored four radiology textbooks. His contributions to the profession have earned him fellowship in both the American Society of Radiologic Technologists and

the Association of Educators in Imaging and Radiological Sciences.

Frank encourages all RTs to take advantage of the excellent opportunity provided by the CERT program.



**Eugene D. Frank, MA**  
Rochester, Minn.

"This is the only CE provider that utilizes peer-reviewed material from a respected radiologic journal and formats it specifically with RTs in mind," Frank said. "This educational content is among the most current available anywhere in the world, allowing RTs to enrich their skills and be a successful member of the radiologic team."

"More and more radiology practices are requiring their technologists to be certified by their accrediting organizations, and our technologists will need more access to high-quality continuing education opportunities," noted ARRS Membership Committee Chair Bernard F. King. "This wonderful program offers continuing education via monthly online CERT lessons that are geared for our RT colleagues through peer-reviewed content published in the *AJR*."

"This vital information will enable our technologists to be on the same page as radiologists when it comes to delivering up-to-date, cutting-edge care to our patients, especially in the rapidly changing technology environment that exists today," King added.

For more information on the CERT program, as well as registration details, please visit [www.arrs.org](http://www.arrs.org). ■