

Delegation of Services Agreement

Recently Title 58 Chapter 54 was amended by the Utah Legislature to include the licensure of radiologist assistants. Part of this change included the addition of a Delegation of Services Agreement between the Radiologist and the Radiologist Assistant.

The Delegation of Services Agreement is a document used by supervising radiologists and the radiologist assistant to meet the requirements of Section 58-54-304, Utah Code Annotated. The Delegation of Services Agreement specifies the name of the supervising radiologist and what types of services the radiologist assistant is allowed to perform pursuant to the statute.

The statute states a radiologist assistant may:

- (a) determine if a patient has been appropriately prepared for the radiologic procedure;
- (b) assess and evaluate the physiologic responses of a patient undergoing a radiologic procedure;
- (c) assess and evaluate possible contraindications to a procedure; and
- (d) obtain informed consent from the patient;
- (e) evaluate image quality and communication of initial image observations only to the supervising radiologist;
- (f) administer contrast media or other medications prescribed by the supervising radiologist; and
- (g) perform radiologic procedures under the indirect supervision of a radiologist.

With the above procedures in mind the radiologist assistant and supervising radiologist must enter into a Delegation of Services Agreement. This agreement identifies radiologic procedures to be performed by the radiologist assistant and establishes a regular review process by the supervising radiologist for all work performed by and records kept by the radiologist assistant.

The Delegation of Services Agreement must be kept at the place of practice at which the radiologist assistant performs the delegated services, and be consistent with radiologist assistant practice guidelines developed by the American College of Radiology. These guidelines may be supplemented by recognized radiology organizations such as the American Society of Radiologic Technologists and the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists.

A radiologist assistant may not interpret images, provide diagnosis, or prescribe medications or therapies.

Failure to have a Delegation of Services Agreement is a violation of Section 58-1-5012(j) and could result in disciplinary action for both the Radiologist and the Radiologist Assistant.