

Mammography Initial Training Program Course Descriptions

Courses are completed in this sequence
40-Category A credits

ANATOMY & PHYSIOLOGY; BREAST SELF-EXAM; PATIENT HISTORY

This unit of study includes comprehensive information on the anatomy and physiology of the breast. A summary of Breast Self-Examination is included so the mammographer can reinforce the practice of this important procedure to the patient. Additional information pertaining to an accurate and complete patient history is included. The mammographer will better comprehend the importance of the interview process and its correlation with breast cancer risks. In this way, we may better serve as a valuable liaison between the patient and the radiologist.

RISK FACTORS FOR BREAST CANCER

This unit of study provides an explanation of the risk factors for breast cancer. The mammographer will be introduced to breast cancer as a disease and learn the current statistical estimates provided by the American Cancer Society. Various risk factors and current research findings will be presented. The mammographer will better understand the importance of presenting this information to the radiologist via the patient breast history form for thorough evaluation of a patient's risk of developing breast cancer.

IMAGE IDENTIFICATION & BREAST COMPRESSION

This unit of study provides an explanation of proper breast compression during mammography. The mammographer will be introduced to various aspects of breast compression including patient care, physical aspects of compression and mandatory quality control testing. The mammographer will also learn the advantages of adequate compression and how to best support the patient during breast compression. A review of proper identification procedures according to the ACR's standardized labeling system is also included.

MAMMOGRAPHIC POSITIONING, BASIC & ADVANCED

This unit of study provides an explanation of proper breast positioning during mammography. The mammographer will be introduced to the basic screening projections, as well as the advanced diagnostic projections. The mammographer will learn the value of each projection and be able to identify those situations when supplemental views are useful in breast imaging. The switch from analog to digital mammography will also be discussed as well as the differences encountered in patient positioning.

BREAST IMPLANTS AND MAMMOGRAPHY

This unit of study provides an overview of breast augmentation. Various types of implants will be discussed as well as various surgical procedures and complications. The mammographer will learn how to manipulate the implanted breast during mammography and recognize important aspects of the patient's history that will assist in the radiologist's interpretation. The imaging of breast implants with ultrasound and MRI will also be explained as well as biopsy techniques and breast cancer treatments for women with breast implants.

BREAST PATHOLOGY

This unit of study begins with an overview of breast cancer categories and the American Cancer Society's estimated incidence rates from 2006 to 2010. A review of breast anatomy & physiology is followed by detailed information on breast imaging terminology from the American College of Radiology. The characteristics of masses, calcifications, and other mammographic findings are explained in great detail, and then correlated with numerous illustrations and radiographic images. All benign, high risk, and malignant breast conditions are covered. The unit closes with interesting case reviews that examine the appropriate action of the technologist and radiologist leading to interpretation of the study.

INTERPRETING THE MAMMOGRAPHY REPORT

This unit of study provides an explanation of the recommended terminology used in the mammography report, as recommended by the American College of Radiology. This information will enable the mammographer to differentiate between a negative report with benign findings and a report that identifies abnormal findings. The sensitivity and specificity of mammography, as well as the ACR Breast Imaging Reporting and Data System (BI-RADS) are explained. Breast Imaging lexicon (terminology) is defined as it relates to the description of masses, calcifications, and areas of asymmetry. The seven assessment categories are also defined and examples of mammography reports are included for review.

ANCILLARY BREAST IMAGING STUDIES

This unit of study provides an overview of the various techniques for breast imaging. It includes a summary of 2-D digital mammography, 3-D digital breast tomosynthesis (DBT), computer-assisted detection (CAD), ultrasonography (U/S), automated whole breast ultrasound (ABUS), breast ultrasound elastography, magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), molecular breast imaging (MBI), positron emission tomography (PET), positron emission tomography/computed tomography (PET/CT), positron emission mammography/tomography (PEM/PET), thermography and contrast-enhanced mammography (CEM). Special procedures such as sentinel node mapping and biopsy are also discussed.

STEREOTACTIC BREAST BIOPSY

Completion of this study unit satisfies the ACR voluntary accreditation requirements for the mammography technologist. This unit of study provides an overview of breast biopsy procedures with an emphasis on the stereotactic method. The mammographer will be introduced to the various methods of stereotactic biopsy, patient selection, pathological findings, and follow-up patient care. The mammographer will also learn how to best support the patient during a stereotactic breast biopsy.

DIGITAL MAMMOGRAPHY WITH QUALITY ASSURANCE (QA) & QUALITY CONTROL (QC)

This unit of study is intended to provide the mammographer with a comprehensive understanding of digital mammography. Image quality depends on several factors. There is a key relationship between the physical qualities of mammography and the radiologist's ability to detect and interpret the various features on the image. With a better understanding of mammography physics, instrumentation, and QA/QC practices, the mammographer will be equipped with the tools she needs to deliver the highest quality of care to the patient. **This course satisfies the 8 hours of digital mammography training required by MQSA.**

DIGITAL BREAST TOMOSYNTHESIS (DBT)

This unit of study provides the mammographer with the **general features** of 3D (Three-dimensional) digital breast tomosynthesis (DBT). The mammographer will learn why DBT was introduced as a new breast imaging modality. A comparison of 2D digital mammography to 3D tomosynthesis is included, from acquisition to display. Information on implementation, dose, and patient selection is also provided. **This course satisfies the 8 hours of DBT training required by MQSA.**

ARRT MAMMOGRAPHY MOCK EXAM

This practice test contains 250 questions organized according to the ARRT's July 2017 Content Specifications for The Examination in Mammography.

ARRT Post-Primary Exam in Mammography categories included for study:

- Patient Care (Questions 1-25 representing 10% of exam)
- Image Production (Questions 26-118 representing 37% of exam)
- Procedures - Anatomy, Physiology and Pathology (Questions 119-168 representing 20% of exam)
- Procedures – Mammographic Positioning, Special Needs and Imaging Procedures (Questions 169-250 representing 32% of exam)

Detailed answers are presented in the feedback section to provide you with a better understanding of the material. Following completion of the examination your score will be generated. You may retake the exam as many times as necessary.

This is a non-credit product.

ARRT MAMMOGRAPHY EXAM REVIEW

This review is a comprehensive study tool for the ARRT Mammography Certification Examination.

There are 5 sections:

- Introduction
- Patient Care
- Image Production
- Procedures
- Glossary of Mammography Terminology

The review includes statistics, images, an extensive Glossary of Terms, and important information on Digital Mammography to help you prepare for the exam. The material is arranged by subject matter according to the ARRT Mammography Examination Content Specifications 2017.

For a more detailed description of the examination contents please download this document from the ARRT Website [Content Specifications Mammography Examination](#)

This is a non-credit product

There is no exam associated with this review.