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Radiations Safety Issues in PET/CT Q&A

During the webinar, the following question related to radiation safety was asked. Please email info@radiationsafety.ca if you wish to discuss this further or any have any other follow up question arising from the presentation.

Q: I am a CCPM certified medical physicist in radiation oncology. Are there any additional training/courses recommended in order to oversee the radiation safety of a PET-CT facility?

A: Any PET-CT facility in Canada must have a Radiation Safety Officer in order to acquire and maintain a license with the CNSC. The CNSC describes the role as follows:

An RSO is the person designated by the licensee as being responsible for the management and control of radiation safety for the licensed activity. An RSO may delegate some responsibilities or tasks to an assistant with the appropriate qualifications to carry out the assigned duties; however, the oversight of the radiation safety program remains with the certified RSO. As such, it is the RSO who is accountable to the licensee, and it is the licensee who is accountable to the CNSC for the appropriate safety and proper execution of duties within the Radiation Protection Program.

There are a number of RSO training providers available, including the Radiation Safety Institute of Canada. Depending upon your province or territory, you would wish to confirm with the regulator that this would suffice for x-ray safety officer training with respect to the CT scanner, if required.