



Approved examinations for the specialty of diagnostic medical sonography administered by the ARDMS (time-limited)

Policy 6.12

Section:	Registration		
Approved By:	Council	Public:	Yes
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Introduction

As set out in Policy 6.11, the CMRTO's Council has approved, on the Effective Date, the examinations set by Sonography Canada for the purpose of section 4.2(1)2 of Ontario Regulation 866/93 as amended. The Council also recognizes that the American Registry for Diagnostic Medical Sonography¹ is a body established in the United States of America that administers examinations in a number of areas of practice of diagnostic medical sonography. The Council considered a number of factors with respect to whether, and for what period of time, the examinations administered by the ARDMS² (as defined below) should be approved by the Council for the purpose of section 4.2(1)2 of Ontario Regulation 866/93 as amended. These factors can be summarized as follows:

¹ "American Registry for Diagnostic Medical Sonography" is a registered trademark in Canada registered by the American Registry for Diagnostic Medical Sonography, Inc.

² "ARDMS" is a registered trademark in Canada registered by the American Registry for Diagnostic Medical Sonography, Inc.

- (a) for many years in Ontario, successful completion by an individual of the examinations administered by the ARDMS and the award of the corresponding credential by the ARDMS have been recognized by employers as a credential demonstrating the individual's competent practice as a sonographer;
- (b) graduates in Ontario of educational programs in the Specialty (as defined below) have had the choice of sitting either the examinations administered by the ARDMS or the examinations administered by Sonography Canada in order to meet employer requirements for the practice of the Specialty;
- (c) the examinations administered by the ARDMS are not offered in French;
- (d) all of the examinations administered by Sonography Canada are offered in English and most of them are offered in French;
- (e) the examinations set by Sonography Canada are based on the content of the National Competency Profile for Sonography;
- (f) the examinations set by Sonography Canada have only been available since 2013; and
- (g) the regulation of a new specialty of the profession means that diagnostic medical sonographers will be required to meet requirements of the CMRTO that may be different from the credentials currently sought by employers in Ontario.

Taking all of these factors into account, the Council has determined to approve the examinations administered by the ARDMS for a limited period of time, as set out below. This Policy will facilitate those sonographers who are graduates of approved programs, have passed the examinations administered by the ARDMS and have been practising in the Specialty, to be eligible for registration. However, the Council recognizes that there are reasons that the approval of the examinations administered by the ARDMS should be time limited because the examinations set by Sonography Canada are based on the National Competency Profile for Sonography and are offered in both official languages. A period of one year should provide sufficient time for a person who has successfully completed the ARDMS examinations to become registered as a member of the CMRTO. Accordingly, after one year, the examinations set by Sonography Canada will become the only examinations approved by the Council for an applicant to be registered as a member of the CMRTO in the Specialty.

Definitions

In this Policy, the following words and phrases have the meanings set out below:

“ARDMS” means the American Registry for Diagnostic Medical Sonography.

“Area of Practice” means each of general sonography, cardiac sonography and vascular sonography.

“Effective Date” means the date on which the Registration Regulation comes into force.

“Registration Regulation” means the regulation which amends Ontario Regulation 866/93 for the purpose of the regulation of diagnostic medical sonography as a new specialty.

“Specialty” means the specialty of diagnostic medical sonography.

Policy

1. For the purpose of section 4.2(1)2 of Ontario Regulation 866/93 as amended, on the Effective Date and for the period of one year from and after the Effective Date, the CMRTO’s Council approves, as the examinations approved by the Council in the Specialty, the following examinations administered by the ARDMS:
 - (a) For all Areas of Practice within the Specialty, the sonography principles and instrumentation examination
 - (b) For general sonography, the following examinations:
 - (i) Abdomen (AB) examination;
 - (ii) Breast (BR) examination;
 - (iii) Fetal echocardiography (FE) examination;
 - (iv) Obstetrics and gynecology (OB/GN) examination;
 - (v) Paediatric sonography (PS) examination; and
 - (vi) Musculoskeletal sonographer (MSK) examination
 - (c) For cardiac sonography, the following examinations:
 - (i) Adult echocardiography (AE) examination;
 - (ii) Fetal echocardiography (FE) examination; and
 - (iii) Paediatric echocardiography (PE) examination
 - (d) For vascular sonography, the vascular technology (VT) examination
2. For the purpose of section 4.2(1)2 of Ontario Regulation 866/93 as amended, on the Effective Date and for the period of one year from and after the Effective Date, the Council approves that:

- (a) an applicant whose Area of Practice within the Specialty is general sonography must successfully complete the examination described in paragraph 1(a) and at least one of the examinations described in subparagraphs 1(b)(i), (ii), (iii), (iv), (v) and (vi)
- (b) an applicant whose Area of Practice within the Specialty is cardiac sonography must successfully complete the examination described in paragraph 1(a) and at least one of the examinations described in subparagraphs 1(c)(i), (ii) and (iii)
- (c) an applicant whose Area of Practice within the Specialty is vascular sonography must successfully complete both of the examinations described in paragraphs 1(a) and 1(d)