Vascular-Interventional Radiography

Candidates for certification and registration are required to meet the Professional Requirements specified in the ARRT Rules and Regulations. ARRT’s Vascular-Interventional Radiography Clinical Experience Requirements describe the specific eligibility requirements that must be documented as part of the application for certification and registration process.

The purpose of the clinical experience requirements is to verify that candidates have completed a subset of the clinical procedures within a discipline. Successful performance of these fundamental procedures, with mastery of the cognitive knowledge and skills covered by the examination provides the basis for the acquisition of the full range of clinical skills required in a variety of settings.

The job responsibilities typically required of staff vascular-interventional radiography technologists are delineated through a periodic practice analysis. This results in a “task inventory.” An advisory committee then determines the number of clinical procedures required to demonstrate adequate candidate experience in performing the tasks on the inventory.

Candidates for Vascular-Interventional Radiography certification and registration must document performance of a minimum of 200 repetitions of vascular-interventional radiography procedures according to the criteria noted below. Procedures are documented, verified and submitted when complete via an online tool accessible through My ARRT Info account on arrt.org. ARRT encourages individuals to obtain education and experience beyond these minimum requirements.

In addition, to ensure the highest level of patient care, candidates must document current basic life support (BLS) certification.

To qualify as a complete imaging procedure, the candidate must demonstrate active participation in a primary role throughout the entire procedure. Examples of primary roles include scrubbing and circulating.

Completion of each procedure must be verified by a certified and registered technologist (post-primary certification not required), supervisor or licensed physician. The verification process is described within the online tool.

Specific Procedural Requirements

The clinical experience requirements for Vascular-Interventional Radiography consist of 61 procedures in seven different categories. The seven categories include:

A. Neurological
B. Thoracic
C. Abdominal and Pelvic
D. Genitourinary and Gastrointestinal Nonvascular
E. Peripheral
F. Venous Access
G. Miscellaneous
Candidates must document the performance of these procedures according to the following rules:

- Each candidate must complete a total of 200 repetitions across all procedures selected for performance from the list of procedures provided.
- The candidate does not need to select procedures from all seven categories.
- Each selected procedure must be performed a minimum of five times (repetitions) in order for the candidate to receive credit for that procedure.
- Each procedure may be counted a maximum of 20 times.
- For any given patient per day, you may count only one diagnostic but may count multiple interventional procedures.
- Choose a minimum of ten of the 61 procedures; more than ten procedures may be selected for completion.

General Guidelines

To qualify as a complete imaging procedure, the candidate must demonstrate active participation in a primary role with appropriate:

- preparation of supplies and maintenance of equipment
- evaluation of requisition order and patient identification, patient preparation and administration of medications as required
- patient monitoring during procedure
- follow-up post-procedure patient care
- image processing, including evaluation of images to ensure they demonstrate correct anatomy, radiographic techniques and identification/labeling

Examples:

The following hypothetical candidates illustrate three ways of satisfying the clinical experience requirements. Numerous other combinations are possible.

Candidate A: This person identified ten different procedures from the list and performed each of those procedures 20 times (10 x 20 = 200).

Candidate B: This person identified 25 different procedures from the list. This applicant performed 15 of those procedures 10 times (15 x 10 = 150), and the other ten procedures five times (10 x 5 = 50).

Candidate C: This person identified 40 different procedures from the list and performed each of those procedures five times (40 x 5 = 200).
Vascular-Interventional Radiography Procedures

A. Neurological
1. Neurologic angiography*
2. Spinal arteriography
3. Embolization
4. Thrombolysis/Thrombectomy
5. Angioplasty
6. Stent placement
7. Vertebroplasty and/or kyphoplasty
8. Discography

B. Thoracic
1. Aortography
2. Pulmonary arteriography
3. Superior vena cavaogram (central venography)
4. Embolization
5. Endograft placement
6. Chest tube/drain placement
7. Thoracentesis
8. Thrombolysis/Thrombectomy
9. Angioplasty
10. Stent placement

C. Abdominal and Pelvic
1. Aortography
2. Selective visceral angiography
3. Renal angiography
4. Adrenal angiography
5. Reproductive/Pelvic angiography
6. Inferior vena cavaogram
7. Paracentesis
8. Angioplasty
9. Stent placement
10. Endograft placement
11. Caval filter placement
12. Caval filter removal
13. Venous sampling
14. TIPS
15. Chemoembolization
16. Radioembolization
17. Embolization

D. Genitourinary and Gastrointestinal Nonvascular
1. Nephrostomy
2. Ureteral dilatation and/or stents
3. Percutaneous renal stone extraction
4. Biliary stone extraction
5. Percutaneous transhepatic cholangiogram
6. Internal/External biliary drainage and/or stenting
7. Cholecystostomy
8. Gastrostomy or gastrojejunostomy
9. Catheter/drain exchange

E. Peripheral
1. Upper extremity arteriography
2. Lower extremity arteriography
3. Extremity venography
4. Hemodialysis graft/fistula study
5. Embolization
6. Thrombolysis/Thrombectomy
7. Angioplasty
8. Stent placement
9. Atherectomy

F. Venous Access
1. Central venous access (non-tunneled/PICC line)
2. Central venous access (tunneled/port)

G. Miscellaneous
1. Biopsy
2. Percutaneous drainage
3. Tunneled drainage (thoracic and abdominal)
4. Foreign body retrieval
5. Thermal Percutaneous radiofrequency ablation (RFA)

(* In this document, angiography includes arteriography and/or venography)