

MRVector

Newsletter of the:

American Registry of Magnetic Resonance Imaging Technologists

Phone: 718-347-8690 Fax: 718-347-8691 E-mail: ARMRIT@msn.com Web page: www.armrit.org

Spring 2004

In this issue:

- **Safety First.**
- **Post Your On-Line CV or MRI Job Listing.**
- **Aquent Healthcare.**
- **Framing Success.**
- **Member Response/Opinion.**
- **Sample MRI Resume.**

PATIENT SAFETY FIRST

The number one issue facing the MRI Technologist today is **MRI Patient Safety**. The most knowledgeable individual in any MRI facility regarding MRI Technology is supposed to be the MRI Technologist. Who else but a formally educated and trained MRI Technologist would know more than other medical personnel, administrators, office staff, patients, or the general public?

The responsibility can be daunting but **someone must stand up and take responsibility**, in my opinion, this falls to the MRI Technologist. One reason for this is the misconceptions promoted by many in the medical imaging community that **incorrectly categorize MRI as a General Radiography technique**. Especially in regard to objects that will become **projectiles in the MRI environment** such as **oxygen tanks, guns, tools, etc.** MRI is the only medical imaging modality that has to deal with the dangers of **DFOs - Deadly Flying Objects**.

Metal detectors, screening forms, verbal interviews are all useful tools when it comes to patient safety and care. **Yet, nothing can replace a diligent, experienced, and observant MRI Technologist**. MRI programs that offer allied health professional training specializing in MRI Technology are providing this type of MRI Specialist.

James F. Coffin, ARMRIT President

WEBPAGE UPDATES

Now ARMRIT Registry Active members can post their resume (CV) On-Line. Go to www.armrit.org and click on '**Job Board**'. You can enter your contact information, work history and equipment experience for MRI employers to review.

Also on '**Job Board**', MRI Employers can now post available MRI Technologist positions. Employers can post their contact information, equipment utilized, and whether or not they are willing to train. MRI Employers can be sure their MRI Tech positions will reach a focused audience of 'MRI Specialists'.

A Q U E N T >

Healthcare

Who We Are - Aquent Healthcare Consulting (AHC) is a healthcare workforce consultancy that provides direct hire recruitment services in Radiology for the most prestigious and progressive hospitals nationwide. At AHC, we are transforming the way hospitals attract and retain top talent. Our value proposition is simple - we're helping our clients realize cost savings and improve patient care by transitioning from a contract labor force to permanent staff.

What We Offer You -Aquent offers candidates exceptional career opportunities with leading hospitals nationwide. As career advocates in the healthcare field, our commitment is to understand your career aspirations, work experience, technical expertise, customer service skills, personality, (over)

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short-term and long-term career goals. We are dedicated to finding you the *best* job that meets your desires and our clients staffing needs.

How are we different from traditional staffing agencies and travel placement companies?

- We have *real* jobs.
- We specialize in the Radiology field
- We have the pulse on the hottest trends in the healthcare industry
- We are an extension of our clients in the recruiting and placement process
- We provide you insight into our clients goals and hiring process
- We guarantee qualified candidates an interview within 48 hours
- We provide you with one-on-one interview preparation
- We encourage our clients to make hiring decisions within 24 hours of the interview
- We take care of your relocation needs from A to Z
- We negotiate the job offer

More than 50% of our candidates receive offers from our clients. We are committed to your success. Our fees are

paid by our clients through the retention of our candidate placements. In short, we don't get paid unless you love your job! To contact Aquent:

Mark Grieco
Senior Healthcare Consultant
Aquent Healthcare Solutions
52 Second Avenue
Waltham, MA 02451
781.522.8204
mgrieco@aquent.com

FRAME and DISPLAY YOUR ARMRIT CERTIFICATE PROUDLY

Make Your Image Prestigious... Show Case Your Certification!

Introducing an impressive new way to display your professional credentials, and at the same time, showcase your commitment to providing the very best in Magnetic Resonance Imaging Technology. ARMRIT has commissioned the design of fine-quality, gold-embossed certificate frames, especially for you. These prestigious, yet affordable frames are designed to fit your certification perfectly. Framing Success, America's #1 provider of premium-quality achievement frames, handcrafts each one.

Ordering your frame is now easier than ever with a new, updated website, available 24/7 for your convenience. Just visit www.framingsuccess.com to purchase a frame for your ARMRIT certification. Proudly display your commitment to professional excellence with the prestige it deserves.

ELIGIBILITY – PARADIGM SHIFT or PRAGMATIC APPROACH???

I was startled by the many myopic opinions about eligibility requirements. While I agree that every individual is entitled to his/her opinion, members should, before voicing shortsighted opinions, (over)

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educate themselves with correct information and look at the situation with an open mind.

Magnetic Resonance Imaging is a part, and will remain a part of Medical Imaging. The X-ray technologist was the first one to struggle and learn MRI. Some of the best MR educators are truly from an X-ray background. MRI did not appear out of a miracle, it was the hard work of many scholars, scientists, radiologists, and engineers. This is an undeniable fact.

It is an undisputable fact that proper classroom education and supervised clinical experience should encompass a GOOD MRI PROGRAM. At the same time not every individual who goes to MRI SCHOOL comes out an "Einstein of MRI" and not every individual who challenges a registry exam without going to school is a sub-standard technologist. Individuals like me who are multi-modality trained are more valuable to imaging departments. Members should realize and be aware that blocking and so-called guarding ARMRIT from other registries is detrimental to all concerned. In my opinion, the removal of the CROSS-TRAINER clause should not be a consideration.

ARMRIT should aggressively market itself, promote exclusive education for MRI Technologists and never close their doors to other registries. Last but not least, the standard of educational requirements set by ARMRIT for MRI Technologists and the level of difficulty on the exam is far superior to other existing registries. To maintain this standard it is not necessary to paint a bad picture about others.

Vellore K. Kumar, RT(R)(CT)(MR).....

..soon to be ARMRIT, RC# 1238

Logansport, Indiana.

QUESTIONNAIRE – MEMBER'S RESPONSE

Dear ARMRIT Board of Directors,

I want to thank you for the Christmas gift card and the registry lab coat patch that you sent to the members. Those are things that make this fine organization different and stronger. Also, I want to give you my opinion about the examination questionnaire. In regard to the third eligibility criteria (equivalency clause – 4 years documented MRI experience) to sit for the exam, since we are working with patients and high-tech equipment, we need to ensure that candidates have some training in the technology. For example, concerning hardware such as RF coils, patient table and the MRI environment. There should also be some training related to scan parameters, planning, archiving, filming, and things regarding computers.

How about patient care? I know for sure that graduates from an MRI Program and Cross-trained techs have a classroom and clinical background. But what about techs that have a Bachelors degree in other fields poles apart from health care with little or no documented patient care training?

I think that the ARMRIT should add the following clause for these applicants, BCLS certified. Also, add another 20 to 30 questions to the examination on the subject of patient care to make sure that the Tech knows or at least the theory of what to do if an emergency arises.

The main purpose of this profession is the patient. My best wishes to you and our organization! I want to let you know that I'm very proud to be an active member of this fine organization and you can count on me, even here in Puerto Rico.

Sincerely,

Norman Rodriguez Casta, RT(R) ARMRIT,
RA# 1419, Cabo Rojo, Puerto Rico

(Over)

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Sample MRI Resume

**John / Jane Doe, ARMRIT
111 Main Street, Apt. 1a
Anywhere, NY 11234**

Objective: To obtain a position as a MRI Technologist commensurate with my MRI experience and MRI education.

Work Experience:

- January 2003 – present **ACME Imaging, PC**, Brooklyn, NY
MRI Technologist performing MRI studies on 8-12 patients per day. Working with a Hitachi MRP5000, 0.2T permanent magnet.
- April 2001 – January 2003 **Parts Production, Inc.**, Queens, NY
Assistant Manager.
- October 1995 – April 2001 **Smith and Smith, Inc.**, New York, NY
Sales Representative.

Education:

- May 2002 – May 2003 **Institute of Medical Imaging Professions**, New York, NY at **Hospital Medical Center**, Queens, NY
MRI Technologist Program with Clinical training.
- September 1993 – June 1995 **City Community College**, Brooklyn, NY
Associates Degree in Applied Sciences.

Certification:

ARMRIT Registry Active # 9999
BCLS, AHA expires May 2005
IV Insertion Techniques, Hospital Certificate.

References available upon request.