3/26/25

To the members of the Department of Public Health,

We believe it is better to put efforts into enlarging programs and investing in scholarship programs for potential Radiologic Technology students. The number of students entering the Radiography programs needs to increase due to technologist shortages. Radiography programs have been limiting their acceptance rate due to the decreasing number of available clinical sites. If LXMO is approved, it will further limit the number of clinical sites available to programs and students. The students must learn and achieve competencies from a fully licensed Radiologic Technologist.

Our hospitals are experiencing not only a shortage of Radiography Technologists but also in the advanced imaging areas. We have created internal opportunity with post primary pathways and registered apprenticeship programs for our Radiologic Technologists to become licensed in CT, MRI, CV, Mammography, etc. As a result, the Radiologic Technologists have opportunity to learn and grow in their profession but also allows for the hospitals to continue to provide services across radiology and cardiovascular departments. If fully licensed Radiologic Technologists are replaced with LXMO, it will prevent this opportunity from continuing since there is no pathway for LXMO.

It’s imperative that quality remains the top goal of every Radiologic Technologist, learning a tiny portion of the role and functioning alone at off site locations is dangerous and counter to all the strides Radiologic Technologists have made to image gently, image wisely, while obtaining high quality diagnostic images.

The state of Massachusetts should continue to raise the bar in health care. Safety and quality should be the forefront of every decision and action plan. Having limited licensed technologists will lower the standard.

If the decision is made to allow the LXMO model to proceed, we strongly recommend a committee to ensure all considerations are thoroughly reviewed. The committee should be ongoing and should include educators, members of MRST, hospital and urgent care leadership. To ensure high quality imaging and safety measures, a Radiologic Technologist must be in the department overseeing a tech with a limited license. Repeat images, high dose, incorrect protocols will all result in unnecessary and unsafe radiation exposure.

Thank you for your consideration,

Georgann Bruski

Jeanne Watrous

Renee Puryear