

## Measurable Elements of AOP.05.04

1. ⓐ The hospital develops and implements a written program to manage radiology and diagnostic imaging equipment, including how radiology equipment is selected and acquired.
2. ⓐ There is a documented inventory of all radiology and diagnostic imaging equipment. (*See also* FMS.07.00, ME 2)
3. ⓐ Radiology and diagnostic imaging equipment is inspected and tested when new and according to age, use, and each manufacturer's recommendations; the inspections are documented.
4. ⓐ Radiology and diagnostic imaging equipment is calibrated and maintained according to each manufacturer's recommendations, and the calibration and maintenance is documented.
5. The hospital has a system in place for monitoring and acting on radiology and diagnostic imaging equipment hazard notices, recalls, reportable incidents, problems, and failures. (*See also* FMS.07.01, ME 1)

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## Standard AOP.05.05

The hospital has implemented quality control procedures for radiology and diagnostic imaging services.

### Intent of AOP.05.05

Well-designed quality control processes and proficiency testing are essential to providing accurate radiology and diagnostic imaging services. Quality control also includes daily surveillance to ensure that testing is completed according to procedure. Rapid corrective actions are implemented when deficiencies are identified.

Quality control processes include the following:

- Review of image quality
- Accuracy of interpretation of imaging
- Daily surveillance of results by qualified radiology and diagnostic imaging staff
- Rapid corrective action when a deficiency is identified
- Documentation of results and corrective actions

## Measurable Elements of AOP.05.05

1. ⓐ The hospital establishes and implements a written quality control program for the radiology and diagnostic imaging services.
2. Quality control includes validating test methods for accuracy and precision.
3. Quality control includes rapid correction and documentation when a deficiency is identified.

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## Standard AOP.05.06

The hospital ensures the quality of services provided by all outside contracted sources of radiology and diagnostic imaging services.

### Intent of AOP.05.06

The hospital has a responsibility to ensure that any service provided by a contracted service meets all licensing and legal requirements and meets quality expectations developed by the hospital.

If the hospital uses the services of a contracted radiology or diagnostic imaging service, the hospital has a responsibility to make certain that the radiology or diagnostic imaging service is licensed and accredited or certified by recognized authorities.

The hospital identifies measures to monitor the quality of services provided by all contracted radiology and diagnostic imaging services. Qualified individuals review and act on the results of quality monitoring. This

information is used to identify potential process improvements and to make decisions about future contracts with the contracted radiology and diagnostic imaging services.

The hospital defines what measures the contracted radiology or diagnostic imaging service is required to collect and submit to the hospital, as well as how often data are submitted to the hospital. Examples of measures collected to evaluate contracted radiology or diagnostic imaging service include the following:

- Turnaround times for tests, meaning the time it takes for the radiology or diagnostic imaging to receive an order, obtain the imaging, and report the results
- Critical results reporting
- Problems with images such as missing identifiers or specimen rejections

### **Measurable Elements of AOP.05.06**

1. ⑩ The hospital maintains a copy of the license from a recognized authority for all contracted radiology and diagnostic imaging services used by the hospital.
2. ⑩ The hospital maintains a copy of the certificate or letter of accreditation or certification from a recognized authority for all contracted radiology and diagnostic imaging services used by the hospital.
3. The hospital determines the frequency and type of quality data from contracted radiology and diagnostic imaging services. (*See also* GLD.05.00, MEs 4 and 5)
4. The individual responsible for the radiology and diagnostic imaging services or a designee reviews the performance measure data from contracted radiology and diagnostic imaging services and takes action based on the results. (*See also* GLD.05.00, MEs 4 and 5)
5. ⑩ An annual report of the data from contracted radiology and diagnostic imaging services is provided to those who make decisions about management and renewal of contracts.

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## **Nuclear Medicine Services**

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### **Standard AOP.06.00**

When applicable, the hospital establishes and implements a nuclear medicine safety program that complies with applicable professional standards, laws, and regulations.

### **Intent of AOP.06.00**

Nuclear medicine is a branch of medical imaging and treatment that uses small amounts of radioactive materials, known as radiopharmaceuticals, to diagnose and treat various diseases. Due to the use of radiation, strict safety standards and guidelines are in place to ensure the well-being of patients, health care professionals, and the general public.

Nuclear medicine practices are regulated by various national and international organizations, such as the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) in the United States, and the European Medicines Agency (EMA) in Europe. These bodies establish and enforce safety standards, including licensing requirements, training guidelines, and equipment regulations. Medical professionals working with radioactive materials in nuclear medicine, such as nuclear medicine physicians, radiologists, and technologists, must undergo specialized training to ensure that they have the necessary knowledge and skills to handle radioactive materials safely. They should be trained in radiation safety, radiation protection, and proper handling and disposal of radioactive waste.

Nuclear medicine facilities are designed to minimize radiation exposure to staff and the public. Shielding materials, such as lead and concrete, are used to contain radiation within designated areas. Proper ventilation systems, monitoring equipment, and radiation shielding barriers are required to ensure safety. Quality assurance programs are established to ensure the accuracy and safety of nuclear medicine procedures. Regular