



Provincial Health Services Authority

CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF RADIOLOGISTS ACCREDITATION POLICY: BREAST SCREENING

(QUALITY MANAGEMENT – SG 050)

Summary of Changes

	NEW	Previous
BC Cancer	June 2023; New policy template and terminology update	2018

Last Revised:	15-JUNE-2023	Next Review:	15-JUNE-2026	
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1. Introduction

1.1. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to provide guiding principles on [Canadian Association of Radiologists Mammography Accreditation Program \(CAR-MAP\)](#) accreditation process.

1.2. Scope

- Breast Screening Program Chief Radiologists
- Breast Screening Program Chief Technologists
- Radiology Managers
- Quality Assurance Support Group
- Client Services Centre Staff

2. Policy

- All BC Cancer Breast Screening affiliated centres must achieve and maintain mammography accreditation through CAR-MAP. Accreditation through CAR-MAP ensures that the quality of mammography images meets the highest standards and ensures patient safety through continuous quality improvement.
- Equipment still in the process of being accredited must be pre-approved by the Breast Screening Program (the Program) designated medical physicist for use.
- Accreditation must be achieved within one year (12 months) of the centre start-up date and is valid for a three-year period.
- All Breast Screening Centres not currently CAR-MAP accredited are required to send monthly Quality Control (QC) records to their assigned program medical physicist, at the physicist's discretion, until the centre is accredited.

3. Responsibilities and Compliance

3.1. Responsibilities

Canadian Association of Radiologists (CAR) is responsible for:

- Initiating the re-accreditation process through their online portal approximately six months prior to the expiration date

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- Notifying the primary CAR contact at the Breast Screening Centre to commence 'Part One' of the re-accreditation process
- Invoicing the Breast Screening Centre directly when payment is required

The Breast Screening Centre is responsible for:

- Ensuring accreditation does not lapse during the term of their service agreement
- Notifying the Technical Quality Management Coordinator when CAR has requested payment for accreditation so an Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) can be arranged
- Payment of any subsequent expenses if an accreditation time limit expires for unsupported reasons or a centre fails a part of the accreditation process more than once

The Breast Screening Program is responsible for:

- Payment of CAR-MAP accreditation expenses or equipment change fees directly to CAR

3.2. Compliance

All staff members are responsible for adhering to this policy and monitoring their activities in accordance with the policy. Staff members observing a violation of this policy may support others to review and understand the policy and/or advise their management of the need for education and support of the policy. If a deficiency in adherence to the policy occurs, the appropriate documentation should occur through the Patient Safety Learning System (PSLS) and the program unusual occurrence notification as appropriate. (SA 030 - Unusual Occurrences, Incident Reporting And Feedback Handling Policy).

4. Related Documents

Steps for CAR-MAP can be found on the CAR-MAP website; additional support materials can be found in the BC Cancer Breast Screening Technologist Manual.

5. Definitions

Canadian Association of Radiologists (CAR): The national specialty society for radiologists in Canada.

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Mammography Accreditation Program (CAR-MAP): An initiative to ensure that the quality of mammography images meets the highest standards

6. References

Mammography Accreditation Program (MAP). Canadian Association of Radiologists. (2023, March 14). Retrieved March 15, 2023, from <https://car.ca/patient-care/map/>

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