

# Equipment Performance Evaluation Modification

## RADIATION CONTROL, X-RAY UNIT

### ATTENTION

The Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) Radiation Control Unit has received information that some registrants and service provider companies are limiting access to service providers due to restrictions they have implemented because of COVID-19. Prohibitions include restricting or barring access to service providers who conduct required x-ray equipment testing.

[Legislative Laws 2020, chapter 74, article 1, section 13](#), signed into law on April 15, 2020, allows the Commissioner of Health to temporarily delay, waive, or modify Minnesota Rules, Chapter 4732 that governs the health care-based use of x-ray and related technologies.

MDH supports healthcare facilities' efforts to protect public health and offers the following guidance for registrants to assure the continuity of radiation safety during COVID-19-related restrictions. This is a fluid situation and this notice is subject to change.

### Requirements for Implementation

Modification for delaying equipment performance evaluations (EPE) is effective, March 13, 2020.

If EPEs are delayed due to circumstances related to COVID-19, registrants may waive specified intervals for equipment performance standards under Minnesota Rules, 4732.0860, Subp. 7, 4732.0865, Subp. 5, 4732.1100, Subp. 2, Subp. 5 through Subp. 11, and Subp. 12, Item C. The delay of the EPE does not include a linear accelerator.

Implementation for delaying EPE testing on x-ray equipment includes:

1. The registrant must document the date and issue(s) related to COVID-19 before the current EPE expired.
2. The registrant must determine a schedule to have the required EPE testing completed no later than 30 days after the termination of the peacetime emergency declared in Executive Order 20-01.
3. The registrant must maintain documentation that must be made available to the MDH X-ray Unit inspection staff upon request.
4. Quality assurance testing must be performed by registrants as long as they continue to perform imaging procedures.

### Situations Not Included in this Modification

## EQUIPMENT PERFORMANCE EVALUATION MODIFICATION

In situations where the x-ray equipment requires repair before use, registrants must direct patients to a facility with properly working x-ray equipment until the repairs and testing are complete.

In situations where x-ray equipment has been purchased, registrants must not use the x-ray equipment until an installation EPE and shielding plan are completed.

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*To obtain this information in a different format, call: 651-201-4545.*