Radiology Technician

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Radiology Technician Duties

- Prepare patients for diagnostic procedures, this includes protecting the patients from radiation exposure
- Effectively manipulate imaging machines to get usable images
- Keeping of patients’ records
- Maintenance of machines and tools
Education

- Three Possibilities
  - Certificate
    - 1-2 year program involving classroom instruction and clinical training
  - Associate’s Degree (Most Common)
    - 2 year program involving traditional coursework in science and communication, along with clinical training
  - Bachelor’s Degree
    - 4 year program focused on diagnostics, patient care, and advanced technology
Other Requirements and Recommendations

- High GPA throughout education
- Volunteer Experience/Community Service
- Shadowing of Radiology Technicians
- Clean criminal record
- Experience working in a health related field
- Focus on writing, biology, math, and chemistry in high school curriculum
Monetary Losses and Gains

- Radiologic technology associate’s degree program costs $7,000 to $10,000 (in state costs).
- U.S. national average salary for a radiology technician is about $48,000 per year.
What To Expect

- A radiologic technician works with physicians and surgeons. Although specialization is in diagnostic imaging, other responsibilities associated with patient care are often performed. Primarily a radiologic technician works regular day-time hours, and the vast majority of this time is spent taking, developing, and interpreting images. Regular maintenance of imaging technology is also performed.
Questions

- Do you think that being a radiologic technician is an interesting profession? Why or why not?
- What qualities do you think are important in order to successfully perform the duties of a radiologic technician?
- Do you think that this profession has had a positive impact on health care? Why or why not?
Along with X-rays, MRIs, and CT scans, sonography is a relatively new technology utilized by radiologic technicians. Here is a link describing this type of imaging: www.diagnosticmedicalsonography.com/