



Announcement

May 2016

Diagnostic Medical Sonographers regulated through the Alberta College of Diagnostic and Therapeutic Technologists

The *Health Professions Act* (HPA) has been amended to provide this pathway for assurance of public protection, leading to greater public awareness and confidence in what Diagnostic Medical Sonographers (DMS) have to offer.

Accountability and public protection go hand in hand. Regulating DMS through the Alberta College of Diagnostic and Therapeutic Technologists (ACMDTT) will result in a more fully utilized health system:

- Patients and their families can verify the professional status of their Sonographer through a public register and expect the ACMDTT to manage public concerns about unsafe practice.
- Practitioners can use the protected title 'DMS' and realize fuller autonomy in professional practice
- Health professionals can feel confident that they are collaborating with regulated professionals

What to expect next

Alberta Health will amend the Medical Diagnostic and Therapeutic Technologists Regulation. Regulation of DMS/mandatory registration can take place only after this process is completed. Also at that time, a public register of sonographers will be added to the College's website enabling public access to information about their practitioners' registration status.

While it is difficult to anticipate how long this might take, it has taken approximately two years for other professions in the past. In the meantime, the ACMDTT will continue to collaborate with Alberta Health on the above. It will also continue to be available for dialogue with sonographers and stakeholders in the profession.

Medical diagnostic and therapeutic professions will move forward together.

Background

2014 Alberta Health declares its support of the regulation of DMS through the ACMDTT

2013 The ACMDTT and Alberta Diagnostic Sonographers Association (ADSA) created a joint taskforce to apply to Alberta Health for regulation of DMS based on:

- Sonography is already integrated into the suite of diagnostic imaging services in Alberta's health system.
- A robust stakeholder consultation with the following that affirms the public perception and significant momentum in the profession to regulate DMS, alongside the other modalities in diagnostic imaging:
 - Alberta Health Services
 - Cardiology groups in Alberta
 - Alberta Society of Radiologists
 - CPSA – Diagnostic Imaging Advisory
 - All accredited diagnostic imaging facilities in Alberta
 - All regulated health Colleges in Alberta
 - Sonography Canada
 - Society of Obstetrics and Gynaecologists of Canada

For more information go to the [ACMDTT website](#) or email DMS@acmdtt.com