

## FAQs

### *Mammography:*

#### **How long do we need to keep our quality control (QC)/assurance records?**

The facility must maintain quality assurance (QA) records including but not limited to:

1. Personnel responsibilities: Qualified mammography personnel assigned appropriate QA tasks.
2. Technique charts/tables: Proper techniques and procedures used in conducting mammograms.
3. Quality Control (QC) records: QC test procedures, test performance and monitoring, data analysis, and timely corrective action.
4. Policy and Procedures: to include safety and protection of patients and personnel.

These records must be maintained until the next inspection that would verify compliance or the individual test has been performed two additional times at the required frequency, which ever is longer. Verifying compliance implies that if QC records for a given test were found to be deficient and the facility was cited during an inspection, these records must be kept until the facility corrects the violation to the satisfaction of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). This means for semi-annual testing the last four must be kept, and for annual testing the last two must be kept.

#### **What needs to be done prior to using a mammography machine in Nevada?**

Three administrative paperwork issues must be addressed prior to offering mammography services in Nevada:

1. A certificate must be issued by the FDA for lawful operation of all mammography machines.
2. An accreditation certificate from The American College of Radiology, the only accreditation body recognized by Nevada.
3. You must also obtain a state certificate of authorization from Nevada Radiation Control Program (RCP). All three certificates **must** be posted.

#### **How long does it take to get the certificate?**

If the application is complete, it is often less than 60 days. If the application is missing necessary information, we will issue a deficiency letter.

#### **Who can operate a mammography machine?**

**Only** a technologist who holds a Certificate of Authorization from the State of Nevada RCP can operate a mammography X-ray machine. This includes, but is not limited to; general mammography and needle guided biopsy mammography.