

IOWA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Bureau of Radiological Health (BRH)  
Lucas State Office Building, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor  
321 East 12<sup>th</sup> Street, Des Moines, IA 50319  
November 2014

IHHS INFORMATION NOTICE: 2014 X-3 Requirements for healing arts screening

ADDRESSEES: All healthcare entities providing ionizing radiation procedures

PURPOSE

IHHS is issuing this notice to remind facilities that IHHS must approve all healing arts screening programs conducted within Iowa.

Healing arts screening is any program that uses ionizing radiation to screen individuals when such tests are not specifically and individually ordered by a licensed practitioner or advanced registered nurse practitioner (pursuant to Iowa Code 152).

This information notice should be reviewed by all persons responsible for healing arts screening at their facility.

REFERENCES

Excerpts from the 641 Iowa Administrative Code (641) related to this issue:

641 IAC 41.1(2)“Healing arts screening” means the use of radiation on human beings for the detection or evaluation of health indicators for which the individual is considered at high risk when such tests are not specifically and individually ordered by a licensed practitioner or advanced registered nurse practitioner (pursuant to Iowa Code 152).

641 IAC 41.1(3)a(10) Any person proposing to conduct a healing arts screening program shall not initiate such a program in the state of Iowa without prior written approval of the agency. When requesting such approval, that person shall submit the information outlined in Appendix C of this chapter. The agency shall not approve a healing arts screening program unless the applicant submits data supporting the efficacy of the screening test in diagnosing the disease or condition being screened. If any information submitted to the agency becomes invalid or outdated, the applicant shall notify the agency in writing within five calendar days.

641 IAC 41 includes Appendix C which outlines the documentation required when submitting an application for approval to provide a healing arts screening program.

The following is a link to access 641 IAC 41 rules in their entirety.

<https://www.legis.iowa.gov/law/administrativeRules/chapters?agency=641&pubDate=11-12-2014>

DISCUSSION

**A healing arts screening is any radiological procedure that is provided to an individual without a specific order from a physician or advanced nurse practitioner (pursuant to Iowa Code 152).**

Examples of health screening programs are (but not limited to) computed tomography for calcium scoring or a bone densitometry study for osteoporosis.

Important considerations for healing arts screening programs:

- The screened population must be limited to only those who meet certain criteria specific to the screening procedure. These criteria must be based off of recommendations from a nationally recognized medical or governmental body, or national organization such as (but not limited to) the American Cancer Society, American Lung Association, or American Heart Association. These criteria should identify high risk individuals.
- A physician must provide oversight and interpretation for all images obtained in the healing arts screening program.
- Individuals can only be exposed to the useful beam when the exposure has been ordered by a physician or nurse practitioner (pursuant to Iowa Code 152), or it is performed under an IDPH approved healing arts screening program.
- The healing arts screening approval process is in addition to the institution's IRB process for research projects, and is required if individuals participating in the study will be exposed to ionizing radiation without an order from licensed practitioner or advanced registered nurse practitioner (pursuant to Iowa Code 152). .
- Mammography screening does not require a separate healing arts screening application. This review and approval is conducted during IDPH's authorization and inspection process for your mammography unit.
- Healing arts screening programs are valid for one year from the approval date and must be renewed annually if the screening program will continue.
- Only imaging that utilizes ionizing radiation is subject to the healing arts screening program approval process. Ultrasound and MRI screenings do not need IDPH approval.

CONCLUSION

IHHS has found that several facilities are providing healing arts screening programs and have not obtained approval from IHHS. Additionally, our records indicate that some facilities with expired healing arts screening programs have not renewed these applications. Please review this notice and all rules regarding these programs to determine their applicability to your current screening practices.

If you provide a healing arts screening program and do not have a current approval from IDPH, please submit an initial application or renewal for your healing arts screening program. Please be sure to include documentation to address all items listed in Appendix C.

Please contact us if you need clarification on whether your screening program is considered to be a healing arts screening program as defined in this notice, or if you have questions. The Radiation Machines program can be reached via phone at 515-802-6866 or email at [radhealthia@idph.iowa.gov](mailto:radhealthia@idph.iowa.gov).

  
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Angela Leek, Chief  
Bureau of Radiological Health

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11/20/2014  
Date