Facts About the RCIS Credential

Cardiac catheterization staff specialized registry credential for all technologists, nurses and allied health professionals

The Registered Cardiovascular Invasive Specialist (RCIS) credential, earned by more than 7,000 professionals, is the globally accepted achievement for allied health professionals who assist in cardiac catheterization procedures.

Who

RCIS credential holders include technologists, nurses, and other allied health professionals. The RCIS is the specialized credential for all allied health professionals who assist in cardiac catheterization lab procedures.

Training and Educational Background

RCIS's working in cardiac catheterization have received training in hemodynamic pathophysiologies, radiation safety, and radiology physics specifically focused on the use of fluoroscopy, cardiac pharmacology, and interventional techniques as it relates to the care and safety of patients undergoing invasive catheterization procedures.

To qualify for the RCIS certification examination, individuals must meet one of the following criteria:

Completion of a formal educational program in invasive cardiovascular technology

OR

Completion of a formal educational program in a healthcare related area AND one or more years of experience working in invasive cardiovascular technology

RCIS Requirements

- Fulfill the educational and/or related cardiovascular work experience
- Adhere to Cardiovascular Credentialing International (CCI)'s Code of Ethics
- Pass the RCIS certification examination
- Adhere to CCI's continuing education policy — thirty-six (36) accredited continuing educational credits every three (3) years

RCIS Role/Scope of Practice

Under the supervision of a physician, RCIS credential holders:

- serve as the scrub assistant
- monitor patients
- operate the equipment in the catheterization lab

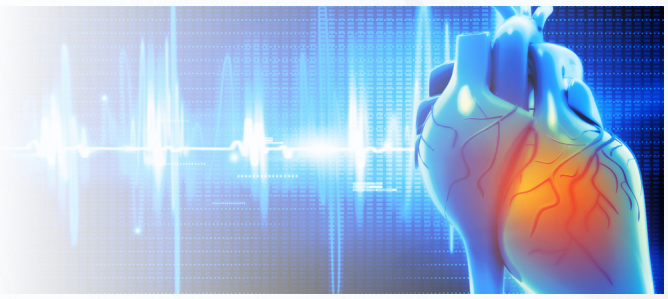
The RCIS scope of practice, published/maintained by the Alliance of Cardiovascular Professionals (ACVP) can viewed at www.acp-online.org. In addition, the Society for Cardiovascular Angiography and Interventions (SCAI) and the Heart Rhythm Society's (HRS) best practice documents reference the need for specialists with these skills and knowledge.

RCIS Value

The RCIS examination is the only unifying standard certification examination that assesses the specialized knowledge and skills needed to assist in cardiac catheterization lab procedures.

RCIS Recognition

The RCIS credential program is accredited by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) under the International Standard ANSI/ISO/IEC 17024:2012.

The RCIS credential is administered by CCI. CCI is an independent not-for-profit corporation established in 1968 for the purpose of administering credentialing examinations as an independent credentialing agency.

For more information, visit www.cci-online.org