



American Urological Association

Policy Statements Approved by the Board of Directors

Urologists' Use of Imaging Services

The American Urological Association (AUA) and the AUA Foundation affirm that urologists are the physicians best qualified to diagnose, manage and treat diseases and conditions of the genitourinary tract and adrenal gland in patients of all ages. Urologists are trained in the performance and interpretation of diagnostic and interventional imaging studies including ultrasonography, radiography, axial scanning (e.g., CT, MRI) and other imaging techniques.

Urologists combine technical skill in the use of imaging equipment with the cognitive skills of the underlying disease processes. It is the urologist's role, using appropriate clinical indications, to select the study, or sequence of studies, needed to aid in the optimal diagnosis and management of urologic patients.

The acquisition and maintenance of skills and knowledge associated with imaging technology is assured by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) Residency Review Committee for urology, continuing medical education provided by the AUA and the certification, recertification and maintenance of certification process of the American Board of Urology.

Urologists integrate an understanding of the risks and benefits of imaging technologies with the clinical care of the patient. Patient care is optimized when urologists coordinate the use of appropriate imaging techniques and equipment in the setting most beneficial to their patients.

Board of Directors, May 1993

Board of Directors, October 2008 (Revised)

AUA Policy on Ultrasound Utilization and Training

The American Urological Association supports the American Institute of Ultrasound in Medicine Practice Guideline for the Performance of an Ultrasound Examination in the Practice of Urology developed in collaboration with the AUA. This guideline includes specifications for individual examinations of the kidney and/or bladder, prostate and surrounding structure, scrotal, and penile; and equipment specifications for each ultrasound examination. Qualifications and responsibilities of personnel are outlined in the AIUM Official Statements Training Guidelines for Physicians Who Evaluate and Interpret Diagnostic Ultrasound Examinations and Training Guidelines for the Performance of Ultrasound Examinations in the Practice of Urology. Documentation, quality control and improvement, safety, infection control and patient education concerns should be addressed in accordance with the AIUM Standards and Guidelines for the Accreditation of Ultrasound Practices.

Board of Directors, May 2012