INFORMATION NOTICE: KS IN 2016-03

Clarification about “Precision Testing” in Bone Densitometry/DEXA

ADRESSEES
All Kansas Registrants that have Bone Densitometry units at their facility. If your facility does not have a Bone Densitometry/DEXA unit, please disregard this Information Notice.

PURPOSE
The Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) is issuing this Information Notice to inform registrants about Bone Densitometry and the issue of “precision testing” as well as the Kansas Regulations that do not permit “precision testing” to be completed in the State of Kansas.

DESCRIPTION OF CIRCUMSTANCES
“Precision testing,” whereby the operator is to repeat the exam on the same patient is considered training or testing on patients and is prohibited in the State of Kansas. It has been found that some facilities are not aware of Kansas Regulations and have been using “precision testing” as part of their Bone Densitometry practice. This is not allowed by Kansas Regulation and can only be done if the ordering licensed practitioner of the healing arts includes “precision testing” in their order of Bone Densitometry.

DISCUSSION
The Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE), Kansas Administrative Regulations, K.A.R. 28-35-242 (c) ONLINE states that an individual shall not be exposed to the useful beam, unless the exposure is for healing arts purposes and each exposure has been authorized by a licensed practitioner of the healing arts. In addition, K.A.R. 28-35-242 (d) (ONLINE) prohibits exposure of an individual for patient positioning, training, demonstration or other purposes without a healing arts purpose and a proper prescription has been provided.

KDHE continues to review available information related to precision testing protocols. At this time, facilities wishing to utilize this procedure must follow K.A.R. 28-35-242 (c) ONLINE.

NOTE: Please refer to K.A.R. 28-35-242 (c) for the definition of a licensed practitioner of the healing arts (ONLINE).

FACILITY ACTIONS NEEDED
If your facility is currently doing precision testing at this time, contact our Radiation Control Program at the information listed below. For facilities considering the practice of precision testing in Bone Densitometry, contact our Radiation Control Program to make sure that you are meeting Kansas Regulations by providing an appropriate order for Bone Densitometry with Precision Testing.

CONTACT
If you have any questions about the information in this notice, please contact Radiation Control at (785) 296-1993 or kdhe.xray@ks.gov.