

Concerned Colleagues,

I'm writing to you as a long time 28 year veteran in the field of ionizing radiation, to state my concern over allowing Physician Assistances to take X-rays'.

Allowing the PA to take x-rays would be the same as allowing me to walk into a physician's office diagnosis a patient and prescribe medications. I'm not qualified to do that. I would be putting the patient and physician at risk. Same can be said about the PA not qualified to take x-rays, not trained on the effects of ionizing radiation, and not trained on the safe use of this equipment. The patient is at risk of radiation burns, undiagnostible images and excessive health care costs.

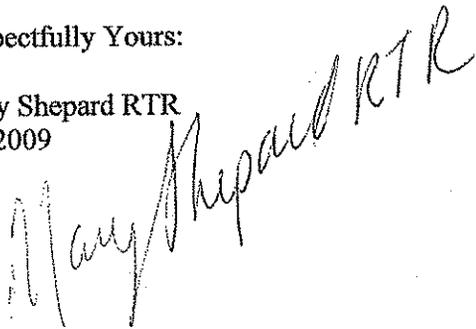
There is a reason I studied for 26months, continued my education, and have been a licensed and qualified technologist for 28 years. The reason is so my patients can feel safe in knowing they have a qualified health care professional taking there images.

PA's should stay in the office assisting the physician, and leave the imaging to the trained and qualified professionals in Radiology.

I urge you to stop any legislation that would allow the PA the access and ability to expose a patient to ionizing radiation.

Respectfully Yours:

Mary Shepard RTR
2/4/2009

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mary Shepard RTR". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned diagonally across the typed name and date.