



## **COMP Endorses AAPM Position on Medical Imaging Radiation Limits**

November 8, 2021

In August 2021, the American Association of Physicists in Medicine (AAPM) passed a [position statement](#) on the use of cumulative radiation dose in medical decision making. Developed in collaboration with the American College of Radiology (ACR) and the Health Physics Society (HPS), the AAPM position was developed in response to a call for action issued by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and other European organizations, recommending the tracking of patient dose.

The Canadian Organization of Medical Physicists (COMP) officially endorsed the AAPM Position Statement on Medical Imaging Radiation Limits on October 8, 2021 and has communicated its support to the AAPM.

In opposition to cumulative radiation dose limits for patient imaging, it is the position of the AAPM, ACR and European counterparts that when a medical imaging exam provides a clinical benefit, the only risk that should be considered is the exam itself rather than a patient's previous radiation exposure. COMP agrees that the potential use of dose tracking to limit medical imaging using ionizing radiation when a dose reaches an arbitrary threshold may negatively impact medical decisions and patient care.

This position is supported and endorsed by other groups including the Canadian Association of Radiologists (CAR), the American Society for Radiation Oncology (ASTRO), the Association for Medical Imaging Management (AHRA), the Radiological Society of North America (RSNA), the Society of Cardiovascular Computed Tomography (SCCT) and the Society of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging (SNMMI).

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