Requirements for Computerized Tomography (CT) Scans Performed within California
Hospital Accreditation Program

**Standard EC.02.04.03**
The hospital inspects, tests, and maintains medical equipment.

**Revised Element of Performance for EC.02.04.03**

1. Before initial use of medical equipment on the medical equipment inventory, the hospital performs safety, operational, and functional checks. (See also EC.02.04.01, EP 2)
2. The hospital inspects, tests, and maintains all life-support equipment. These activities are documented. (See also EC.02.04.01, EPs 3 and 4; PC.02.01.11, EP 2)
3. The hospital inspects, tests, and maintains non–life-support equipment identified on the medical equipment inventory. These activities are documented. (See also EC.02.04.01, EPs 2-4 and PC.02.01.11, EP 2)
4. The hospital conducts performance testing of and maintains all sterilizers. These activities are documented. (See also IC.02.02.01, EP 2)
5. The hospital performs equipment maintenance and chemical and biological testing of water used in hemodialysis. These activities are documented.
14. For hospitals that use Joint Commission accreditation for deemed status purposes: Qualified hospital staff inspect, test, and calibrate nuclear medicine equipment annually. The dates of these activities are documented.
17. For hospitals in California that provide computerized tomography (CT) services: A qualified medical physicist measures the actual radiation dose * produced by each CT imaging system at least annually and verifies that the radiation dose displayed on the system is within 20 percent of the actual amount of radiation dose measured. The dates of these verifications are documented.
   Note: This element of performance is applicable only for systems capable of calculating and displaying radiation doses.
   Footnote *: For the definition of “radiation dose” according to California Senate Bill 1237, refer to http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/pub/09-10/bill/sen/sb_1201-1250/sb_1237_bill_20100929_chaptered.html
**Standard PC.01.02.15**

The hospital provides for diagnostic testing.

**Revised Element of Performance for PC.01.02.15**

1. Diagnostic testing and procedures are performed as ordered.
2. Diagnostic testing and procedures are performed within time frames defined by the hospital.
3. When a test report requires clinical interpretation, information necessary to interpret the results is provided with the request for the test.
4. For hospitals in California that provide computerized tomography (CT) services: The hospital documents the radiation dose * on every study produced during a CT examination.
   
   Note: This element of performance is applicable only for systems capable of calculating and displaying radiation doses.

   Footnote *: For the definition of “radiation dose” according to California Senate Bill 1237, refer to http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/pub/09-10/bill/sen/sb_1201-1250/sb_1237_bill_20100929_chaptered.html

5. For hospitals in California that provide computerized tomography (CT) services: The radiology report of a CT study includes the radiation dose. The dose is either recorded in the patient's radiology report or included on the protocol page, which is then attached to the radiology report.

   Note: This element of performance is applicable only for systems capable of calculating and displaying radiation doses.

   Footnote *: For the definition of “radiation dose” according to California Senate Bill 1237, refer to http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/pub/09-10/bill/sen/sb_1201-1250/sb_1237_bill_20100929_chaptered.html

6. For hospitals in California that provide computerized tomography (CT) services: The hospital electronically sends each CT study and protocol page that lists the radiation dose * and related technical factors to the hospital’s electronic picture archiving and communications system.

   Note: This element of performance is applicable only for systems capable of calculating and displaying radiation doses.

   Footnote *: For the definition of “radiation dose” according to California Senate Bill 1237, refer to http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/pub/09-10/bill/sen/sb_1201-1250/sb_1237_bill_20100929_chaptered.html

---

**According to the California law, radiation dose is defined as one of the following:**

- The computed tomography index volume (CTDI vol) and dose length product (DLP), as defined by the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) and recognized by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA).
- The dose unit as recommended by the American Association of Physicists in Medicine.