



FIRST SURVEY MONOGRAPH OF IMAGE REPORTING BY RADIOLOGIC TECHNOLOGISTS IN SUDAN: DOES ANY INTERESTING/ DESIRE?

Awad Elkhadir¹ and Abdel moneimsaeed Ahmed²

¹Department of Diagnostic Radiology, Faculty of Applied Medical Sciences (FAMS), King Abdulaziz University, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia

²Department of Radiologic Technology, College of Applied Medical Sciences, Qassim University

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ABSTRACT

Background: Although Sudan has qualified and veteraned radiographers, image reporting by Diagnostic Radiologic Technology Specialists (DRTSs) is remains unauthorized in this country. Expansion the task of radiographers to have authority of image report in a specific part of the body will reduce the stress on radiologists due to overload work, more reported images and less patient waiting time. Urgent needs to conduct this study to explore desires of DRTSs in Sudan to image reporting

Methodology: A cross-sectional monograph was conducted to know desires of DRTSs in Sudan to image reporting. Questionnaire distributed in August 2014 directly to random of 139 DRTSs.

Results: It was observed that 94.2% (n=131/139) of the participants in Sudan would like to write a report of image.

Conclusion: There are more interesting of image reporting by DRTSs in Sudan.

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INTRODUCTION

Diagnostic Radiologic Technology Specialists (DRTSs) in some country called radiographers. Sudan National Council for medical and health professions (NCMHP) classify DRTS who has a bachelor's degree in Diagnostic Radiological Technology (DRT) from a recognized University by NCMHP second specialist.¹ Despite the fact that many DRTSs have several qualifications in radiography, didn't yet found a clear job description for these new names of classifications. Most DRT programmes in Sudanese universities, offering a 5-4 year BSc Honors degree. In addition, some universities have MSc and PhD programmes as well, such as Sudan University of Science and Technology. Unfortunately, there is a huge shortage of radiologists currently because Sudan has just only 102 graduated radiologists from Sudan Medical Specialization Board (SMSB) between (2008-June 2015).² As result of larger population 39,613,217 according to report of United Nations in 2015³ and also because of the Numbers of radiologists are insufficient. Eventmost of them are found in Khartoum center⁴, there is inadequate services of diagnoses diseases particularly in the areas far away from the Khartoum city center. To overcome such as this problem other countries like Australia and UK recognized the image interpretation by radiographers.^{5,6,7}

Over the last two decades radiographer abnormality detectionschemes (RADS) such as red dot and last commenting have become widely spread.^{8,9,10,11} The expectation of College of Radiographers (CoR), Health Professionals Council (HPC) and the academic Quality Assurance Agency (QAA) bodies is that on qualification, radiographers will possess image interpretation skills.^{7,12,13} This is first a study aiming to discuss this important issue in the Arab World.

METHODOLOGY

A cross-sectional study was conducted to know desires of DRTSs in Sudan to image reporting. Questionnaire distributed in August 2014 directly to random group of DRTSs (139). One important closed question required answering with no or yes was asked to see if the participant would like to write a report for the image of a specific part of the body in case of getting proper training in radiographic image reporting or didn't want? Data was analyzed using IBM-SPSS 16.0. Statistical significance was acceptable at P value <0.05.

RESULT AND OBSERVATIONS

Survey showed statistically significant (P-value = 0.000; d.f. = 1) of DRTSs 94.2% (n=131/139) have a strongly would like to write a report of image, while just 5.8% (n= 8/139) didn't have any interesting to get this task (Table 1).

*Corresponding author: Awad Elkhadir

Department of Diagnostic Radiology, Faculty of Applied Medical Sciences (FAMS), King Abdulaziz University, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia

Table 1 Interesting of DRTSs in image reporting

Answer	Frequency	Percent	P- value	df
Yes	131	94.2		
No	8	5.8	.000	1
Total	139	100.0		

DISCUSSION

This study explores that DRSs have quite enough interesting to writing radiographic images reporting in Sudan. Importantly while, the authorization to enable DRTSs to do this task still doesn't found in Sudan, there were several studies showed an important role of radiographers in writing reports such as a recent a longitudinal analysis study in UK by B. Snaith *et al.*⁹ Where showed an important role of radiographers in writing reports.¹⁴ DRTSs in Sudan faces several challenges despite, the quite enough qualified who have good reputable abroad, working in a prestigious institutions and they success in examinations of international professional organizations such as Europe and United States.² Image reporting by diagnostic radiologic technologist is remains one of a big challenges in Sudan and also the Middle East. Even though radiographer in developed countries got this authorization more earlier.^{5,6,7, 8,9,10,11,19} In UK the quality of radiographer reporting is similar to a consultant radiologist regardless the area of clinical practice.^{16,17,18}

CONCLUSION

Decisive step should be taken to achieve these strongly and reasonable interesting of image reporting by DRTSs in Sudan. Overall Radiography institutions especially in Sudan hence should struggle to be centers not just to information transmission, but of innovation and creative researches to support scientists, researchers, academicians and students in conducting research and working to develop radiography profession.

Expertise, training, improve imaging services and strongly desire to improvement are all necessary to introduce good health services

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