

## Positioning Standards Analysis

### Senior Radiology Class

The senior Radiology class has analyzed whether or not graduated radiologic technologists are executing the positioning guidelines they were taught in radiology school. Our class has reviewed electronic medical images of patients at numerous hospital facilities and have applied standard positioning guidelines from respected textbooks used in radiography classes such as Martensen's book "Radiographic Image Analysis" and "Merrill's Atlas of Radiographic Positioning and Procedures" by Long, Rollins and Smith. Positioning standards are important for adequate diagnosis of the patient and delivering optimal patient care. If there is any rotation, foreshortening or distortion of any kind to the anatomy being imaged, the diagnosis could affect the patient's care in a negative way. The positioning standards taught in school are not recommendations. Every part of anatomy should be positioned and imaged the same way each time for the Radiologist to diagnose and report. It is a radiologic technologist's professional and ethical duty to follow positioning standards. We expect that we will find variations in positioning practices that could impact patient care.