

Images Not Attainable Due to Mobile Equipment Limitations

Purpose:

To define the procedure that will be followed by all staff technologists concerning required images that are not attainable because of patient thickness and portable equipment limitations on mAs.

Policy:

1. The technologist will attempt to obtain and acquire images requested by the physician
2. In the event the images cannot be acquired the technologist will:
 - a. Contact the ordering physician
 - b. Suggest that they bring the patient to the department where they may be able to obtain a higher technique.
 - c. If the patient cannot be transported to the Diagnostic Imaging the technologist may suggest using a different modality to the ordering physician.
 - d. If all attempts are exhausted the technologist will change the order to match the diagnostic images and leave the images that are not diagnostic with an edited note on the PACS to show that every attempt was made to complete the physicians' order.
 - e. When editing on the PACS, every attempt must be made to provide the Radiologist with **accurate documentation** regarding ordering physicians' name, dates, times, etc.
 - f. If no images were diagnostic, the order must be canceled
 - g. All cancelled orders must be credited on Invision.
3. Images that are not of diagnostic quality on PACS are not to be carried over from shift to shift. They need to be fixed as soon as possible so that the patient's medical records are accurate and so as not to cause a delay in the patient's care or treatment.
4. The technologist who begins the procedure will be held responsible for following this policy.

Written: 05/25/04
Reviewed: 12/24/06
Revised: 01/09