

Radiographer

What does a Diagnostic Radiographer Do?

Diagnostic Radiography is the professional practice of conducting a range of diagnostic examinations using ionising (x-rays) or non- ionising (ultrasound) radiation. This may be done to produce an image to confirm or exclude a clinical diagnosis, to assist and monitor treatment processes, for general or specific screening programs and for research

The Diagnostic Radiographer is required to make decisions regarding the nature of the extent of individual imaging procedures, and to provide when requested medical practitioners with informed opinions regarding the results of procedures, which assist the medical practitioner in arriving at a correct diagnosis. The diagnostic radiographer is responsible for the wellbeing of patients whilst they are in their care.

What do I study to become a Diagnostic Radiographer?

- Bachelor of Medical Radiation Science (Diagnostic Radiography) – University of Newcastle
- Bachelor of Applied Science (Diagnostic Radiography) – University of Sydney
- Bachelor of Applied Science (Medical Imaging) – Charles Sturt University, -Wagga Wagga
- Bachelor of Medical Radiation (Diagnostic Radiography) – University of South Australia
- Bachelor of Radiography and Medical Imaging – Monash University – Victoria

The Bachelor of MRS is conducted over three years of full-time study. Extensive clinical experience is integrated throughout the course. Centres can include major teaching hospitals, small rural hospitals, and private practices.

A day in the life of a Rural Radiographer

- Examination of new patients
- Monitor treatment of continuing patients
- Participation in satellite clinics in smaller communities
- Work closely with GPs to assist in patient diagnosis
- Maintain equipment & implement new diagnostic imaging techniques.

Career opportunities

- Clinical Positions in private and public hospitals
- Upper level management roles such as Chiefs or Directors of services
- Higher Education and Research roles

What sort of person should I be?

- Willing to work as part of multidisciplinary health care team
- Focused on the wellbeing of individual patients
- Good communicator
- Kind and caring
- Good decision maker
- Comfortable with computers and new technologies