

YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED

Q: Do clinical technologists have to be on this register?

A: The RCT is a voluntary register so technologists don't have to join it. Those who do have shown, through education and application of practical skills, that they are fit to practise in their chosen area.

Q: How does the RCT protect the public?

A: Clinical technologists perform complex procedures on patients, look after specialist medical devices and prepare treatments. Every day they make decisions that affect patients' health, safety and welfare. The RCT ensures those on the register have been fully trained and assessed and continue to update their skills.

Q: How can I find out if someone involved in my care is on the RCT?

A: You can look up any individual by name using the online register on the RCT website. Or you can contact the RCT administrator (see overleaf) with the name of the person you want to check and the administrator will do the search for you.

HOW CAN I MAKE A COMPLAINT IF I HAVE A CONCERN ABOUT A REGISTRANT?

The RCT will take any complaint seriously. Complaints are rare but any matter raised, however small, will be dealt with in accordance with our Complaints Handling Procedure. You can telephone us in the first instance to discuss your concern or write to The RCT Administrator at the address overleaf. More information can be found in the 'Information for the Public' section of our website: www.therct.org.uk

CONTACT US

The Register of Clinical Technologists
Fairmount House
230 Tadcaster Road
York YO24 1ES

Tel: 01904 550500

Email: enquiries@therct.org.uk

www.therct.org.uk



Institute of Physics and
Engineering in Medicine

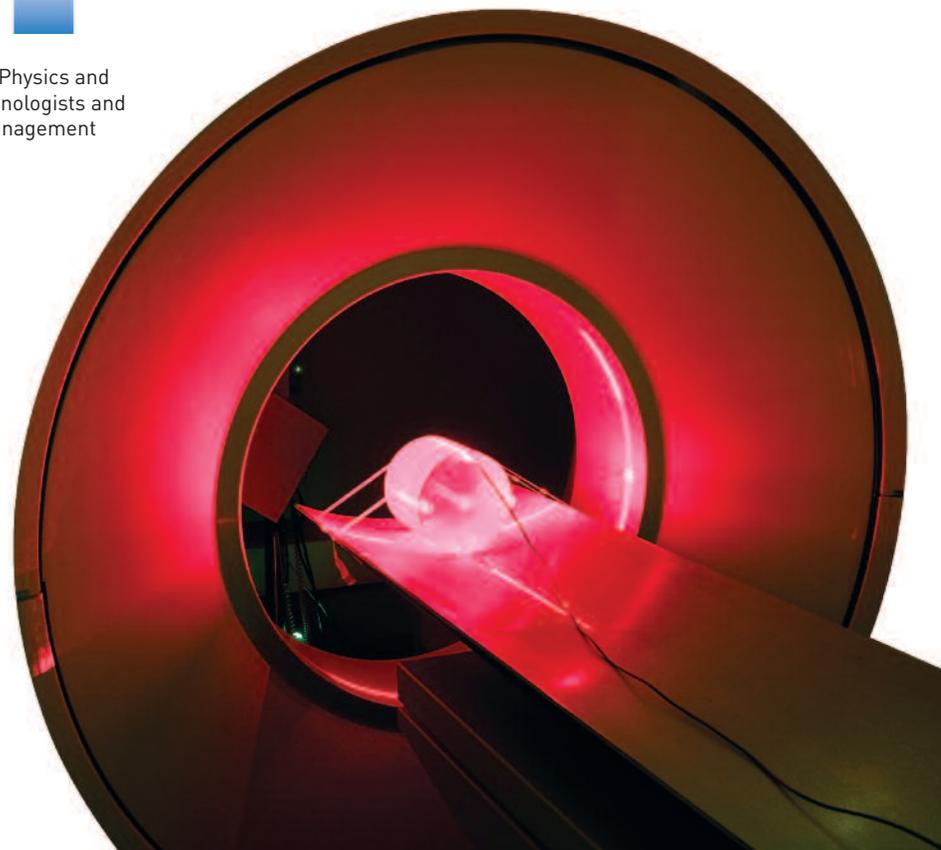


A register managed in collaboration by the Institute of Physics and Engineering in Medicine, the Association of Renal Technologists and the Institute of Healthcare Engineering and Estates Management

the RCT the Register
of
Clinical
Technologists

Information for patients and the public

Protecting the public since 2000



The RCT is accredited by the Professional Standards Authority under its Accredited Registers programme

the RCT the Register
of
Clinical
Technologists





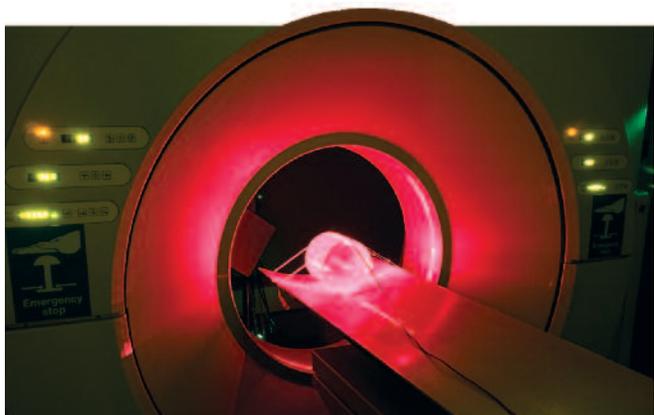
WHAT IS A CLINICAL TECHNOLOGIST?

Clinical technologists are healthcare scientists who work in hospitals, universities and industry.

Clinical technology is about the practical application of physics, engineering and technology to healthcare – such as the diagnosis, treatment and prevention of disease, and improving the quality of people's lives.

Clinical technologists may have a variety of titles in the workplace. They work in specifically defined areas (called a 'scope of practice') and in a range of clinical and other healthcare locations.

Some work in direct contact with patients whilst some work 'behind the scenes'. However their impact on patient care and outcomes cannot be ignored or underestimated.



CLINICAL TECHNOLOGISTS AT WORK

Clinical technologists may work in clinical physics or clinical engineering.

Clinical physics covers:

Nuclear medicine – where radioactive materials are used in the diagnosis and treatment of disease.

Radiotherapy physics – as part of the multi-disciplinary team that delivers radiotherapy to treat diseases like cancer.

Radiation physics – services which monitor the health and safety of workers, patients, the public and the environment from hazards arising from the medical use of radiation.

Clinical engineering covers:

Medical engineering – the application of engineering principles and technology in the specification, design, development, maintenance and repair of electronic and mechanical equipment used in healthcare.

Radiation engineering – carrying out repairs, servicing, modifications and calibration on radiotherapy and radiology devices, their hardware, software and supporting equipment.

Rehabilitation engineering – the application of engineering principles and technology to develop specialist devices and provide services to meet the needs of individuals with disabilities.

Renal technology – providing specialised equipment management services to renal dialysis units.

ABOUT THE RCT

- The RCT sets standards for the training, continued learning and conduct of clinical technologists who apply to join the register.
- To join the RCT each applicant must show that they meet the standards set by successfully completing an agreed training scheme or demonstrating equivalence to it.
- Once registered, individuals ('registrants') must continue to meet the RCT standards throughout their working life.
- Registrants must abide by a code of conduct to ensure that patients' interests, well-being and dignity are paramount at all times and that patients receive safe, high quality care.
- Registrants must actively maintain their fitness to practise by taking part in continuous professional development activities. This ensures that they keep their skills up to date and maintains their professional status for the protection of the public at all times.