

Results & Analysis

Radiation Therapy Educational Program Director Survey

N=53

Background Information

1. What is your position in the program?

| | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| 94% Program Director | 6% Other Educational Faculty <i>(1 Clinical Supervisor, 2 Clinical Coordinators)</i> |
|-----------------------------|--|

2. How many students are in your senior class?

| | | | | |
|----------------|-----------------|------------------|------------------|----------------------|
| 12% 1-5 | 56% 6-10 | 17% 11-15 | 13% 16-20 | 2% 21 or more |
|----------------|-----------------|------------------|------------------|----------------------|

3. Is your program a certificate-based program or a degree-granting program?

| | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 25 % Certificate-Based | 75 % Degree-Granting |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|

4. Is your program sponsored by a healthcare institution or an educational institution?

| | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|---|
| 12% Healthcare | 87% Educational | 2% Other <i>(N=1, Both McGill U and Dawson College)</i> |
|-----------------------|------------------------|---|

5. How many clinical sites does your program have?

| | | | |
|-------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------------|
| 0% 1 | 22% 2-5 | 22% 6-9 | 57% 10 or more |
|-------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------------|

6. How many clinical sites are currently allowing students to complete clinical procedures at their site?

| | | | | |
|--------------|--------------|----------------|---------------|----------------------|
| 67% 0 | 13% 1 | 15% 2-5 | 2% 6-9 | 2% 10 or more |
|--------------|--------------|----------------|---------------|----------------------|

7. If none of your clinical sites are currently allowing students to complete competencies on site, indicate the date that they have set for students to be able to return.

| | | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| 75% have not set a date | 12% within the next month | 10% 2-3 months | 0% 4 months or more |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|

Comments indicated the following about when students can return to clinical sites:

- *Already completed*
- *Undetermined date*
- *Return date affected by states*
- *Hospital management will make determination in late May*
- *Site will allow students; educational institution will not allow students to return*
- *June 1st*

- July 15th
- August
- September 1st

Educational Program Completion

8. When is/was your senior class scheduled to graduate?

| | | | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|
| 23% has already graduated | 21% within the next month | 40% 2-3 months | 8% 4-6 months | 4% ≥ 7 months |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|

9. Not considering any requirements that are specific to ARRT’s didactic and clinical competency requirements, what percentage of your senior students are expected to complete all the institution’s other graduation requirements by the anticipated graduation date noted above?

| | | | | | | |
|-------|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|
| 10% 0 | 4% 1-20% | 0% 21-40% | 2% 41-60% | 0% 61-80% | 4% 81-99% | 81% 100% |
|-------|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|

ARRT Didactic Competency Requirements

10. What percentage of your senior students are expected to have completed ARRT didactic competency requirements by the anticipated graduation date noted above (see explanation of ARRT Didactic Competency Requirements attached)?

| | | | | | |
|-------|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|
| 2% 0% | 2% 1-20% | 0% 21-60% | 2% 61-80% | 2% 81-99% | 92% 100% |
|-------|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|

11. If any students are not expected to complete the ARRT didactic competency requirements by the graduation date, what requirements will they be lacking?

Comments indicate:

- Clinical Competency Requirements
- Final exams that are required by institution to be face-to-face
- CPR

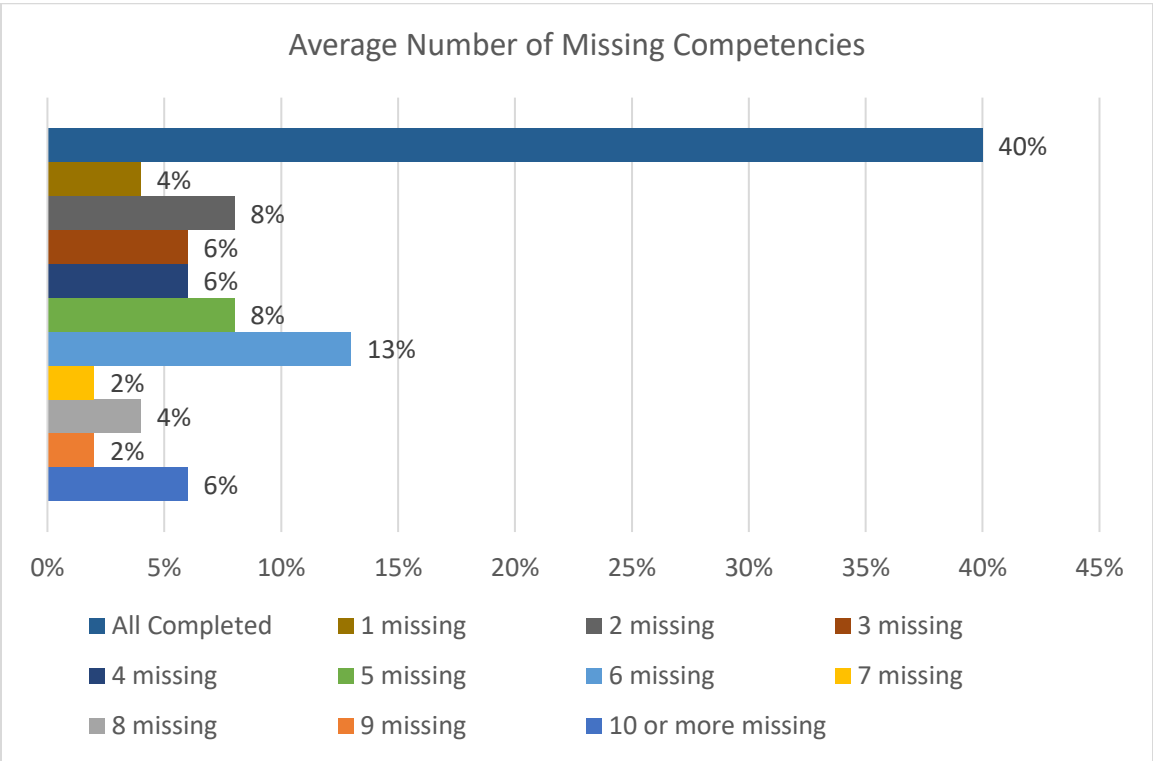
ARRT Clinical Competency Requirements

Note: ARRT currently allows three of the 18 treatment procedures competencies to be simulated.

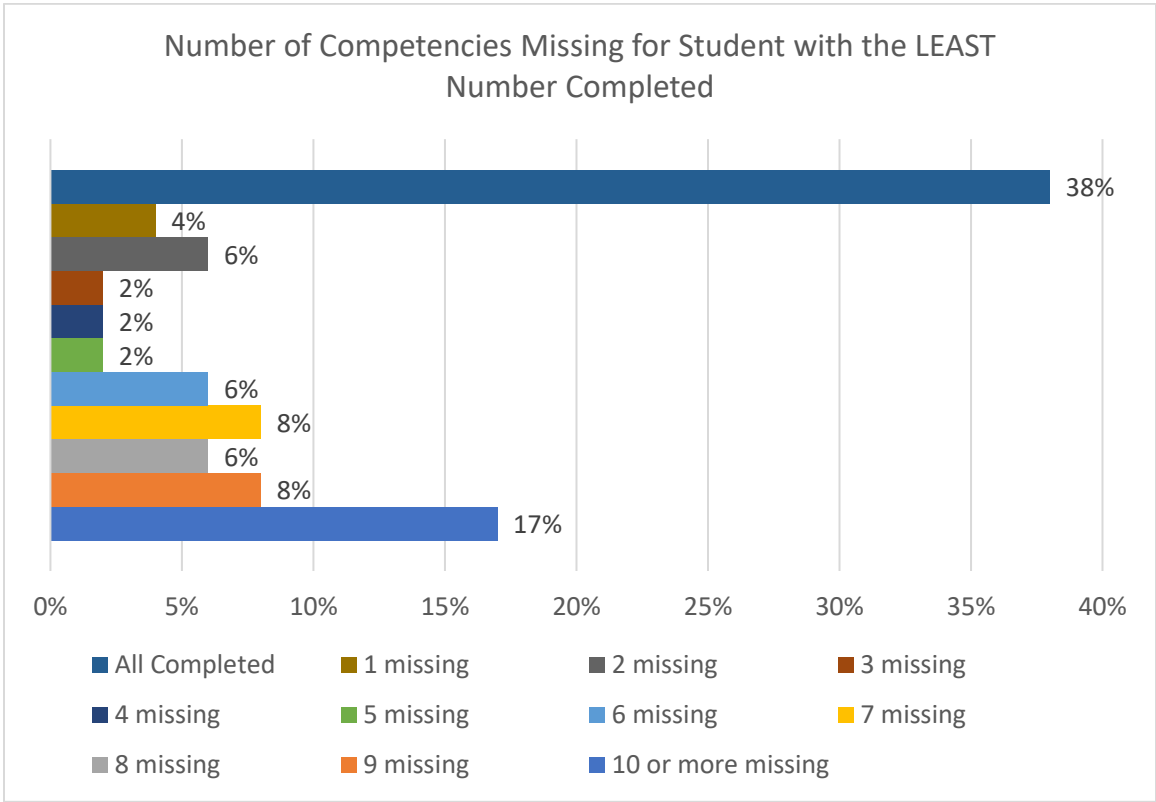
12. What percentage of your senior students are expected to have completed ARRT clinical competency requirements by the anticipated graduation date noted above? (See explanation of ARRT Clinical Competency Requirements attached)

| | | | | | | |
|--------|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|----------|
| 18% 0% | 6% 1-20% | 6% 21-40% | 8% 41-60% | 6% 61-80% | 14% 81-99% | 42% 100% |
|--------|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|----------|

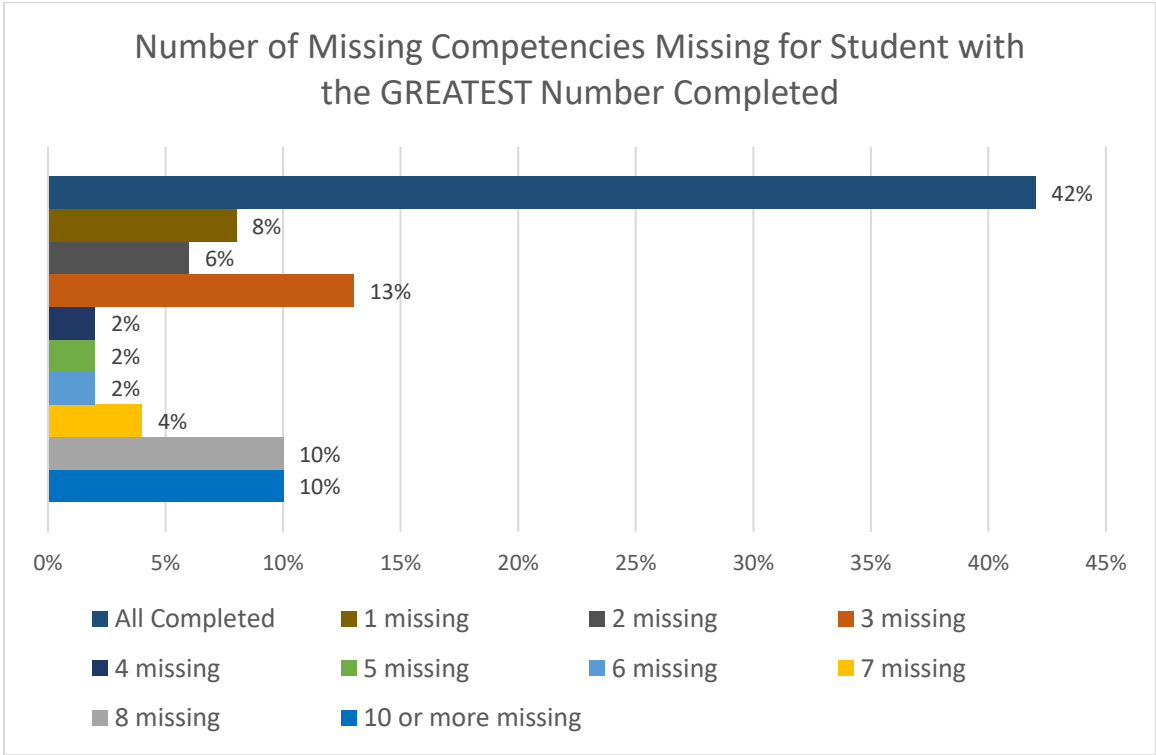
13. If any students are not expected to have completed the ARRT’s 18 treatment procedures in the clinical competency requirements, what is the average number missing considering the entire group of students?



14. What is the number of competencies missing for the student with the least number completed (i.e., the number of competencies that still need to be completed)?



15. What is the number of competencies missing for the student with the greatest number completed (i.e., the number of competencies that still need to be completed)?



No reports of students missing 9

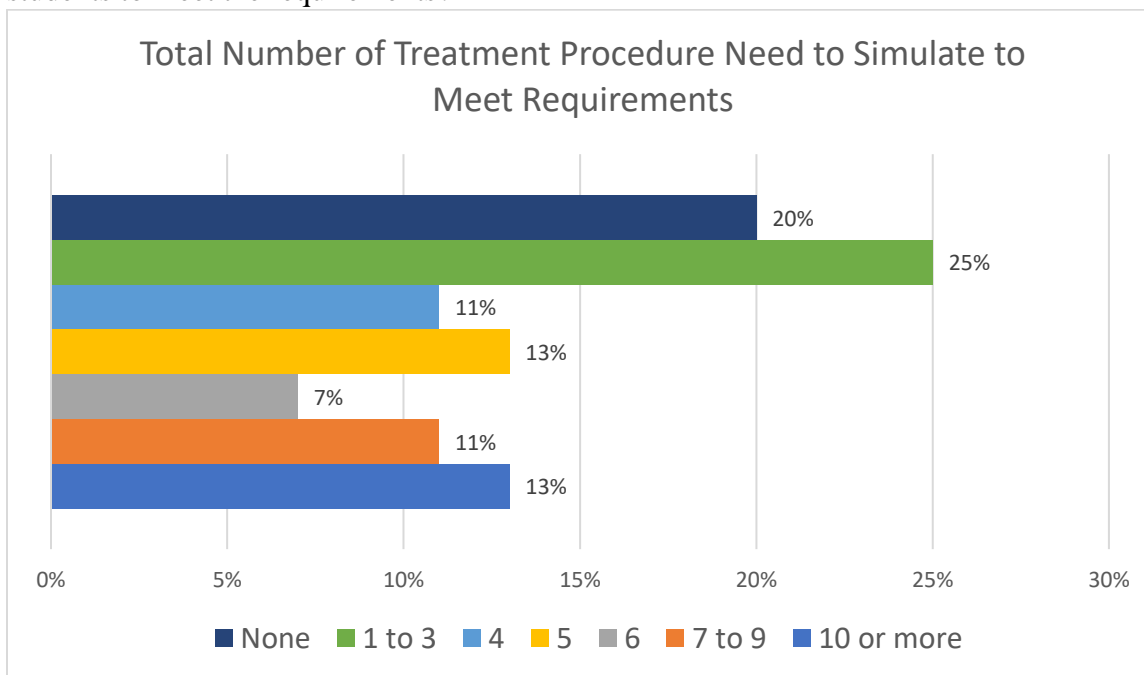
16. If any students are not expected to have completed the ARRT clinical competency requirements, are there procedures in common across the students that they will be lacking or do the ones missing vary widely across individuals?

| | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|-------------------|
| 39% Competencies have been/will be completed | 12% Missing these competencies | 49% Varies |
|---|---------------------------------------|-------------------|

Comments indicate the following areas are most difficult to complete:

- *Prone pelvis*
- *Abdomen*
 - *Per the March 2020 Radiation Therapy Practice Analysis & CQR Committee, the recommendation that the Board will receive is to replace the two subcategories of “Multi-field (non-IMRT)” and “IMRT and/or arc therapy with the single category “Multi-field”*
- *Abutting electrons*
 - *Per the March 2020 Radiation Therapy Practice Analysis & CQR Committee, the recommendation that the Board will receive is to change “Abutting Electrons” to “Photon or Electron-Abutting Fields” since abutting photon fields are more common*
- *Single field spine*
- *Breast with supraclavicular and Posterior Axillar Boost*
- *Non IMRT thorax*

17. What is the total number of treatment procedures that would need to be simulated for your students to meet the requirements?



18. What environment does your program have for simulation of the treatment procedures?

| |
|--|
| 26% Clinical lab |
| 11% Education program on-campus lab |
| 28% On-campus virtual lab |
| 15% Clinical virtual lab |
| 21% Other |

Comments indicate that obstacles include:

- *Rely on clinical site*
- *Although a virtual lab is available, students and faculty are not allowed on campus*

19. Which of these environments do your students have access to at this time?

| |
|---|
| 14% Clinical lab |
| 5% Educational program on-campus lab |
| 9% On-campus virtual lab |
| 23% Clinical virtual lab |
| 43% Other |

Comments indicate that obstacles include:

- *Campus is closed*
- *Sites are closed*

20. Can program officials be available for students to simulate the treatment procedures?

| | |
|---------------|----------------|
| 19% No | 81% Yes |
|---------------|----------------|

Comments indicate:

- *Campus is closed*
- *Would like to “exercise creativity” and use web ex sessions/YouTube videos*
- *“...if these were more virtual and the students watch as we show them the process and then just verbally test the students.”*

21. Are there restrictions that your program has that limit the ability for students to simulate the treatment procedures?

| | |
|---------------|----------------|
| 49% No | 45% Yes |
|---------------|----------------|

Comments indicate:

- *Campus closed*
- *Sites are closed*
- *Fewer students allowed in the lab at one time for social distancing*

22. If ARRT were to increase the number of procedures that could be simulated but maintained the current criteria for how the simulations must be performed, would it be possible for those students who have not demonstrated all clinical competencies to complete them?

| | |
|--------|---------|
| 30% No | 67% Yes |
|--------|---------|

Comments indicate:

- *Need to simulate simulations, not just treatment procedures*
- *If they can simulate in the classroom*
- *“...this loses the integrity of the competency and should not be increased”*

23. If ARRT were to increase the number of procedures that could be simulated, would it be possible for students to perform at least one procedure for each area (Brain, Head and Neck, Thorax, Breast, Abdomen, Pelvis, Skeletal, Electron Fields) on an actual patient?

| | |
|--------|---------|
| 17% No | 83% Yes |
|--------|---------|

Comments:

- *“...if we could do these in the classroom setting...we’d have no issue.”*
- *“...this loses the integrity of the competency and should not be increased.”*
- *Abutting electrons are “nearly impossible”*

24. If ARRT were to maintain the current number of procedures that can be simulated but modified the current criteria for simulating procedures consistent with your answer to the question above, would it be possible for your students who still need to complete some clinical competencies to demonstrate them?

| | |
|--------|---------|
| 38% No | 60% Yes |
|--------|---------|

Comments:

- *Could use on-campus labs that have the VERT system*
- *“...this loses the integrity of the competency...”*
- *Allow them to be completed virtually and increase the number of simulations*

Degree Requirement

25. Does your program admit only students who already have an associate degree or higher?

| | |
|--------|---------|
| 67% No | 33% Yes |
|--------|---------|

26. Does your program award a degree?

| | | |
|--------|--------------------|------------------------|
| 22% No | 33% Yes, associate | 46% Yes, baccalaureate |
|--------|--------------------|------------------------|

27. If your program does award a degree, will the students completing the program's professional component be able to complete the degree requirements by the anticipated graduation date noted above?

| | |
|--------|---------|
| 17% No | 73% Yes |
|--------|---------|

Comments:

- *No. Clinical requirements are part of a final course grade*

28. Does your program require that students meet a specified number of clinical hours* in addition to completing ARRT clinical competencies?

* clinical hour requirements are determined by each program and programmatic accreditors

| | |
|--------|---------|
| 48% No | 52% Yes |
|--------|---------|

29. If your program requires that students meet a specified number of clinical hours, will meeting the required number of hours continue to be a challenge even after students have completed ARRT clinical competency requirements?

| | |
|---|---|
| 61% Students have met hours or does not apply | 36% Yes, meeting the required clinical hours is a challenge |
|---|---|

Comments:

- *Depends on when students can return to clinicals*
- *Requirements have been relaxed due to COVID19*

Miscellaneous

30. Are there other impediments to meeting ARRT's eligibility requirements that have not been addressed in the questions above?

| | |
|--------|---------|
| 76% No | 24% Yes |
|--------|---------|

Comments:

- *Simulation* competencies (4 of 11 comments specifically mention this)
There are 7 Treatment Planning Simulation Procedures (Brain, Head and Neck, Thorax, Breast, Abdomen, Pelvis, Skeletal). All must be demonstrated on patients
- *CPR certification*
- *Concerned about junior students getting enough clinical time*

31. If ARRT modified how requirements are satisfied, how would you want to apply these changes?

| | |
|--|---|
| 59% Modified requirements should only be for students near graduation | 41% Modified requirements should apply to all current students |
|--|---|

Comments:

- *Apply to junior students*
- *Make modifications for all students in the program*
- *Only for students within 6 months of graduation*
- *Current requirements are appropriate and ensure that graduates are prepared*