

MRAD 285 Radiographic Applied Skills Reflection – Professionalism

Student name : Ulrica Sun

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How have you seen these demonstrated in practice?

During my clinical placement, I realized that professionalism in medical imaging involves much more than producing quality diagnostic images. It is demonstrated through our communication, teamwork, ethical decision-making, respect for patient privacy, time management, and personal presentation. These qualities help build trust with patients and ensure safe, compassionate care.

One of the most important aspects I observed was patient interaction and communication. Many patients are anxious, in pain, or unsure of what to expect. I learned that introducing myself, explaining the examination clearly, and speaking with patience and empathy can help patients feel more comfortable and cooperative. Even when the department is busy, taking a few extra moments to answer questions can make a significant difference in the patient's experience.

Teamwork and interprofessional collaboration were also essential throughout my placement. I worked closely with radiologic technologists, nurses, physicians, porters, and other healthcare professionals. Effective communication between team members ensured that patients were transferred safely, urgent examinations were prioritized, and the workflow remained efficient. I also observed the importance of maintaining patient confidentiality by discussing patient information only in appropriate settings and ensuring privacy during examinations.

Professionalism also means following ethical standards. I learned that image quality and patient safety should never be compromised for speed. Technologists consistently applied ALARA principles, confirmed patient identity, and followed infection prevention protocols. I also noticed how punctuality, organization, and maintaining a professional appearance contributed to a respectful and efficient clinical environment.

How do you think professionalism in medical imaging might differ from or align with other healthcare professions?

Professionalism in medical imaging shares many similarities with other healthcare professions. All healthcare providers are expected to communicate effectively, work as a team, protect patient privacy, and provide patient-centered care. However, medical imaging has unique responsibilities. Radiologic technologists must obtain diagnostic-quality images while minimizing radiation exposure and often have only a short time to establish trust with patients. This requires strong technical skills combined with excellent communication and critical thinking.

Overall, my clinical experience has shown me that professionalism is reflected in everyday actions. As I continue my education, I will strive to strengthen these qualities so I can provide safe, respectful, and compassionate care while becoming a competent and trustworthy medical imaging professional.

Thank you

