



Republic of the Philippines
Professional Regulation Commission
Manila



PROFESSIONAL REGULATORY BOARD OF MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY

Resolution No. 53

Series of 2023

SCOPES OF THE PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE OF MEDICAL TECHNOLOGISTS
AND THE MEDICAL LABORATORY TECHNICIANS

WHEREAS, Republic Act (R.A.) No. 5527, or the "Philippine Medical Technology Act of 1969", as amended, provides for the regulation and the scope of practice of the Medical Technology profession;

WHEREAS, R.A. No. 5527, as amended, defines "Medical Technologist" as *a person who engages in the work of medical technology under the supervision of a pathologist or licensed physician authorized by the Department of Health in places where there is no pathologist and who having passed the prescribed course (Bachelor of Science in Medical Technology/Bachelor of Science in Hygiene) of training and examination and is registered under the provision of said Act;*

WHEREAS, a "Medical Laboratory Technician" is defined under the same law as *a person certified and registered with the Board as qualified to assist a medical technologist and/or qualified pathologist in the practice of medical technology as defined in the said Act;*

WHEREAS, Section 11 of R.A. No. 5527, as amended, provides that the Professional Regulatory Board of Medical Technology (Board) is *vested with authority and required, conformably with the provisions of the Act, to issue, suspend and revoke Certificates of Registration for the practice of medical technology;*

WHEREAS, Section 21 of R.A. No. 5527, as amended, stipulates, in part, that the Board shall issue a Certificate of Registration as Medical Laboratory Technician without examination to any person who upon application and payment of the required fee, show evidence satisfactory to the Board that he/she failed to pass the board examination for medical technology but had obtained a general rating of at least 70%. Provided, that a registered medical laboratory technician when employed in the government shall have the equivalent civil service eligibility not lower than second grade;

WHEREAS, there is a need to delineate the scopes of practice of medical technologists vis-à-vis the medical laboratory technicians, particularly on the area of *Histopathology*;

WHEREAS, *Histopathology* is one of the core professional subjects of Medical Technology. To be qualified to practice *Histopathology*, one must possess a thorough knowledge of laboratory techniques and procedures, laboratory terminology, skills in the operation of basic and complex laboratory equipment using various methodologies. It involves the performance of high complexity testing, processes, and preparation of tissue and biological body fluid samples for the pathologist's examination and review. All of which play a crucial role in the diagnosis and treatment of diseases;

WHEREFORE, the Board **RESOLVES**, as it is hereby **RESOLVED**, to define the scopes of practice of Medical Technologists and Medical Laboratory Technicians as follows:

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Medical Technologists:

The scope of practice and functions of the Medical Technologists are those enumerated in Section 2(a) of R.A. No. 5527, as amended by Section 2(a) of Presidential Decree No. 498, viz:

A person shall be deemed to be in the practice of medical technology when for a fee, salary or other compensation or reward paid or given directly or indirectly through another, renders the following professional services for the purpose of aiding the physician in the diagnosis, study and treatment of diseases and in the promotion of health in general:

1. Examination of tissues, secretions and excretions of the human body and body fluids by various electronic, chemical, microscopic, bacteriologic, hematologic, serologic, immunologic, nuclear, and other laboratory procedures and techniques either manual or automated;
2. Blood banking procedures and techniques;
3. Parasitologic, Mycologic and Microbiologic procedures and techniques;
4. Histopathologic and Cytotechnology;
5. Clinical research involving patients or human beings requiring the use and/or application of medical technology knowledge and procedures;
6. Preparations and standardization of reagents, standards, stains and others, provided, that such reagents, standards, stains and others are exclusively for the use of their laboratory;
7. Clinical laboratory quality control; and
8. Collection and preservation of specimens.

Medical Laboratory Technicians:

The scope of practice and functions of the Medical Laboratory Technicians shall be limited to the following:

1. Assisting a registered Medical Technologist or Pathologist in performing simple laboratory testing and analyses in clinical areas such as Chemistry, Hematology, Parasitology, Microscopy, and Histopathology; Phlebotomy; preparation of culture media used in Microbiology; and receiving and/or preparation of specimens as described in the Philippine Qualifications Framework of the Medical Technology profession.

Within the Clinical Laboratory, their practice shall be confined to receiving, documenting and determining suitability of specimens received for testing; appropriate handling, transport and storage of specimens; preparing laboratory supplies, reagents and equipment needed for laboratory testing; releasing of signed laboratory results; record keeping; and housekeeping.

Within the Histopathology Laboratory, their practice shall be limited to receiving and documenting of specimens received; appropriate handling and storing of specimens; preparing laboratory supplies, reagents and equipment needed for Histopathologic and Cytopathologic procedures/techniques; organizing and archiving slides and paraffin blocks; releasing of signed-out reports; record keeping; and housekeeping.

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2. Performing other tasks assigned, including:
- a. Screening of specimens for acceptability;
 - b. Checking and matching completion of laboratory registration form;
 - c. Preparation of reagents; and
 - d. Encoding and transcription

RESOLVED FURTHER, that the registered Medical Laboratory Technicians are constrained from performing histopathologic techniques and procedure; **only registered Medical Technologists can perform the phlebotomy procedure.**

All resolutions, orders, circulars and other issuances inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its publication in the Official Gazette or in any newspaper of general circulation.

Let a copy of this Resolution be furnished the University of the Philippines Law Center.

Done in the City of Manila, this 7th day of December 2023.


MARILYN A. CABAL-BARZA
Chairperson


LEILA LANY M. FLORENTO
Member

VACANT
Member

ATTESTED BY:


Atty. Lovelika T. Bautista
Chief, PRB Secretariat Division

DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE
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APPROVED:


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ERWIN M. ENAD
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