

MEDICAL IMAGING IN NORTHERN CANADA: A STUDY BY THE CANADIAN RADIOLOGICAL FOUNDATION

W. Mason

Canadian Radiological Foundation

The Canadian Radiological Foundation (CRF) is a charitable organization of radiologists promoting the art and science of radiology through research and education within Canada and internationally. Through the Canadian Radiological Foundation, and its sister organization, the Canadian Association of Radiologists, radiology physicians assume a proactive role in assisting governments and medical institutions in finding solutions to the growing challenges in distributing healthcare resources within Canada.

Through late 2008 and early 2009, the Canadian Radiological Foundation undertook a research study entitled Medical Imaging in Northern Canada to report on the status of radiological care in the Yukon, Northwest Territories and Nunavut. The Canadian Radiological Foundation undertook the study recognizing that the north is an often under-serviced region of Canada with very unique challenges in the provision of quality radiological care to its population. The study results are compiled into a comprehensive report bringing together for the first time ever detailed information on the service delivery and infrastructure for imaging in the north. Topics covered in the report include: the types of modalities and imaging services provided; the distribution of imaging services and resources, including which ones are imported or sought elsewhere; the payment of services; the application of teleradiology in the north; and a look at the professionals providing the care. The Canadian Radiological Foundation worked directly with health ministries, hospital administrators and other regional stakeholders of the northern territories to complete this study, and gratefully acknowledges their participation. The report will be a valuable resource to policy makers and administrators as they work to address the north's distinctive challenges. Key results of the Medical Imaging in Northern Canada study will be shared during the presentation of the Canadian Radiological Foundation.

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