

About the Wisconsin Radiological Society

The Wisconsin Radiological Society (WRS) is an organized group of radiologists who believe in advancing the science of radiology, improving imaging services to patients and the medical community, studying the economics of radiology, encouraging improved and continued education for radiologists, and preserving established high medical and ethical standards in the practice of radiology.

What is a Radiologist?

Radiologists are physicians, medical doctors (MDs), doctors of osteopathic medicine (DOs) who specialize in diagnosing and treating diseases and injuries using medical imaging techniques, such as x-rays, computed tomography (CT), magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), nuclear medicine, positron emission tomography (PET) and ultrasound (US).

Radiological procedures are medically prescribed and should only be conducted by appropriately trained and certified physicians under medically necessary circumstances. Radiologist physicians have four to six years of unique, specific, post—medical school training that includes radiation safety and ensure the optimal performance of radiological procedures and interpretation of medical images.

Increase Access to Breast Cancer Imaging Exams for Wisconsin Women

WRS strongly supports Assembly Bill 263/Senate Bill 264 also called "Gail's Law." This bipartisan bill requires health plans to provide no-cost supplemental and diagnostic breast cancer screenings to patients in need of these exams. While Wisconsin health plans must cover traditional, 2D screening mammograms, there is no requirement for them to cover the screenings that do a better job of catching cancer in women who are at high-risk for developing breast cancer, especially women with dense breast tissue.

Due to the high out-of-pocket costs of supplemental screenings and diagnostic breast imaging, many women forgo these medically necessary exams. Research consistently shows that treatment costs for Stage III or IV breast cancer are 200-500% more than early-stage cancer. Removing financial barriers to accessing technologies that aid in early detection, like breast MRI or ultrasound, will not only save lives but also reduce breast cancer treatment costs for patients, insurers and the healthcare system.