

Membership Benefits

The Australian Institute of Radiography is the peak body representing radiographers, radiation therapists and sonographers in Australia. We are the national professional organisation for the promotion and advancement of the Medical Imaging and Radiation Science profession.

Just a few of the benefits of AIR membership...

Work collaboratively with the radiography professional body and be involved in technological and professional advances.

Make your views heard - join us and other partners in lobbying on the issues that most matter to you.

Communicate better with patients and the wider public about health awareness and services provided by Medical Radiation Science professionals.

Engage with industry and stay on the cutting-edge of technological developments.

Contribute alongside the AIR to discussions with government, regulatory bodies, employers, educators, professional groups and international partner associations.

Participate at more events and keep your CPD credits up, with discounted attendance at most AIR events (over 80 per year).

We've also negotiated some great benefits through our corporate partnerships, with new deals on the way - watch this space!

Aon Insurance Ltd. has developed a responsive and tailored insurance package that supports members of the AIR. Our Group Professional Indemnity Insurance Policy includes up to \$20 million cover with a \$100,000 legal defence extension. This policy includes Unlimited Run-off cover, ensuring you are covered for the time you worked even after you have ceased practice. Full Ordinary membership can also cover you for working overseas in some countries, for a period of up to 12 months.



Medical Radiation Learning Online is a global gateway to quality learning resources in medical radiation sciences. MRLO uses the latest e-learning technology to make your interactions dynamic, focused and flexible. Access to MRLO Units of Learning and Resources is a Member Benefit.



Looking to buy a new car? **Volkswagen** is offering members of the AIR special discounted rates on new cars. This offer is strictly available to financial members only and varies from dealer to dealer. Visit www.volkswagen.com.au.



Hertz Car Rental is offering AIR Members a discounted rate on all rental cars. This discount can be redeemed at any rental depot in Australia and New Zealand. Enter the following code into the CDP (Customer Discount Program) 1472801 to redeem this discount online or phone 13 30 39. There is no limit on how many times members can redeem this code.



The AIR has teamed up with **Qantas** to offer our members access to Corporate Qantas Club Membership. Joining Qantas Club as an AIR Member will save you up to \$220 in your first year alone!



PI Insurance - from Aon Insurance

Having to defend a legal claim against you as a Radiographer or Radiation Therapist can be highly stressful; it is not only a threat to your assets, but to your reputation. That's why the AIR believes it's important to have the right protection and that starts with the right insurance cover.

Why do I need professional indemnity cover?

Professional indemnity (PI) insurance plays an essential role in your protection from the risk of legal claims, covering your defence costs and the costs of a settlement award if you are found negligent. Your insurance also gives you access to quality legal representation and advice for managing incidents and complaints. PI insurance is automatically part of your membership of the AIR, and now with national registration the government through the Medical Radiation Practice Board of Australia (MRPBA) has made PI a mandatory requirement of registration.

What insurance do I have as a member of the AIR?

The key features of the PI offered by the AIR are:

- The policy meets all of the MRPBA requirements regarding professional indemnity insurance
- \$20M cover for professional indemnity, public and products liability insurance as part of a Master Policy
- \$100,000 cover to provide assistance for legal fees associated with responding to defence at disciplinary hearings as part of the Master Policy
- No additional cost – this cover included in your membership
- Covers you for any past activities, that you were not aware of before joining the Institute, that come to light during the current period of insurance
- If you stop practising in this profession, you will receive free ongoing cover (to protect you in retirement from past activities undertaken).

The AIR urges you to check what other organisations, or your employer offers. Some employers may only cover you for when you are working and fully compliant with all and every company policy that they have – so you will have to purchase run-off cover separately when you leave their employment - with AIR and Aon you have unlimited run-off cover.

What do I need to be aware of with my PI insurance?

An important aspect of a 'claims made' insurance policy is that incidents must be reported immediately once they become known. There may be a general tendency for people to avoid reporting incidents to their insurer, however, there are no penalties incurred for claims or notifications. You may, however, jeopardise your cover by not reporting incidents when you become aware. When you report an incident you benefit from our support in managing the incident and also meet the obligations of your policy.

What happens if an incident occurs?

You should notify Aon as soon as practically possible when you become aware of a matter or issue that may be a claim or give rise to a claim. This can be a direct and obvious claim, or notification to address a disciplinary matter. In all instances, any and all correspondence or documentation should be provided to Aon in the first instance. You can notify a claim by calling Aon on 1800 805 191, emailing au.air@aon.com, or writing to Aon at GPO Box 1230, Melbourne VIC 3001.



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PI Insurance - FAQs

Below are a series of questions that address issues regarding insurance and the recent change of insurance provider.

Why do I need professional indemnity cover?

The Medical Radiation Practice Board of Australia (MRPBA) has a requirement that anyone who wishes to register with the Board and undertake the professional services related to radiology must hold professional indemnity insurance. Their standards set specific elements that the policy must have (e.g. amount of cover) included.

Does Aon and W. R. Berkley's policy meet the Board's PI requirements?

Yes. Should the requirements change, Aon will renegotiate with W. R. Berkley to have any enhancements addressed.

What insurance do I have as a member of the AIR?

You have professional indemnity, public liability and products liability. These are explained at the Insurance Page or you can download the policy details on the AIR website.

What do I need to be aware of with my PI insurance?

You must notify Aon immediately of any matter you think could lead to claim.

What happens if an incident occurs?

Call 1800 805 191 immediately. Do not seek to find legal assistance yourself as this will likely be provided and the law firm appointed by the insurer.

What is a Master Policy?

This is a Master Policy offering for eligible members of the AIR. All eligible members are bound by the same overall claim limitation (Master Policy), meaning the aggregate coverage for all eligible members is \$20 million per year. If one eligible member makes a claim for \$20 million, the total coverage remaining for all eligible members is \$40 million for the remainder of the policy period.

Who is Aon?

Aon is a commercial insurance broker - one of the leading insurance brokerages in Australia and globally. It has divisions that specialise in both the health sector and other insurance products that the Institute and members specifically require. Using an insurance broker provides the Institute the opportunity to ensure our product is the best balance of price and cover and ensure the underwriter/insurers selected are specialists in the area of insurance we are seeking.

Does the change to Aon affect my cover?

No. Aon has ensured that no member will be disadvantaged by the change. This is achieved two ways:

- By the unlimited retroactive cover, which ensures all past activities are insured – provided any known circumstances have been declared
- By the continuous cover clause – which ensures any notifications not raised in the period the previous insurer offered the policy, can be addressed within this policy (subject to the policy terms and conditions).

AIR Scholarships

International Travel Scholarships

The AIR offers four International Travel Scholarships per year to current members. Two provisional scholarships are offered for \$3,500 to provisional members, one in diagnostic imaging and one in radiation therapy. Two \$5,000 scholarships are offered to ordinary members, one in diagnostic imaging and one in radiation therapy.

The aim of the scholarship is to assist AIR members to experience Medical Radiation Science on an international stage such as attendance at an international conference, participation in an international training programme or the undertaking of small study tours.

Rural Clinical Placement Scholarships

A Rural Clinical Placement Scholarship is available as one grant per calendar year for each university that offers AIR-accredited courses in medical imaging and radiation therapy. Each scholarship is to the value of \$500 and can be used by the recipient for the necessary travel and accommodation.

The aim of the scholarship is to support and promote rural health initiatives. The successful applicant is required to write a reflective report on the experience for publication in an AIR publication and be willing to participate in evaluation studies or surveys regarding allied health in the rural setting.

AIR Research Scholarships

The AIR, through the Professional Accreditation and Education Board (PAEB), is offering two research scholarships to enhance the research base within Medical Radiation Science.

Each research scholarship will be for a maximum of \$10,000. One will be offered in diagnostic radiography and one in radiation therapy. The scholarships are designed to help members develop research projects that will directly benefit patients.

The PAEB invites AIR members to apply for the scholarships. The successful candidate will be expected to publish the outcome of their work in the *Journal of Medical Radiation Sciences* (JMRS), the official journal of the AIR and the New Zealand Institute of Medical Radiation Technology (NZIMRT) and to present at the Annual Scientific Meeting of Medical Imaging and Radiation Therapy (ASMMIRT).

Rural and Remote Postgraduate and Supervised Practice Programme (SPP) Scholarships

The Rural and Remote Postgraduate Scholarship in Diagnostic Imaging is designed to encourage practitioners working in the rural and remote environment to undertake postgraduate studies to advance their knowledge. This scholarship is provided by the Department of Health and Ageing and administered by the AIR.

Please check our website for further information: <http://www.air.asn.au/careerschol.php>. These scholarships will commence in January 2016 and conclude in June 2016.



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AIR Services

Non-Active Membership

Non-Active Membership has been designed especially for non-practising practitioners. It includes all the benefits of Ordinary Membership but does not include the Professional Indemnity Insurance. Non-Active Membership allows our members to keep up-to-date with their CPD and Accreditation status while they're absent from practising, enabling a seamless transition back to work.

Going on Maternity Leave?

The AIR understands what a busy and challenging time this can be for our members. This is why we offer a transfer to Non-Active Membership for the duration of your Maternity Leave. The AIR awards CPD credits for a 12-month absence on maternity leave.

Thinking of Retiring?

Retiring from practising Radiography or Radiation Therapy? Joining Non-Active Membership keeps you up-to-date with the profession and maintains your involvement in the future of the profession.

If you have maintained your continued support of the AIR through continuous membership for 40 years or more, the AIR will transfer you to a Long-Standing Member of the Institute. This is the same as Non-Active Membership except the fees are covered by the AIR.

Overseas Membership

Planning an overseas trip?

If you are planning a working holiday overseas, why not look at our Overseas Membership?

Overseas Membership entitles you to the same benefits as Ordinary Membership, excluding the Professional Indemnity Insurance Cover and the subscription fee is reduced. AIR Journals can also be sent to your overseas address.

Educational Materials Borrowing Service

The AIR holds a comprehensive library of educational material that is available on loan to all members, with preference given to rural and remote members, to assist them with their compliance in CPD. The library consists of DVDs and textbooks covering a broad range of topics in both Medical Imaging and Radiation Therapy. The DVDs are available on a two-week loan and the textbooks are available on a one-month loan.

To view the catalogue visit: https://membership.air.asn.au/cms_files/Educational_Material_Catalogue.pdf

AIR Events

There are a large variety of seminars, workshops and conferences that practitioners can attend. Events are advertised in Spectrum and regular updates are made to the Events Calendar on our website. The AIR offers all its members special discounted rates to all AIR-associated events.

Events run by the AIR are an efficient and easy way to accrue credits toward the CPD Programme. If you are interested in finding out any more information relating to AIR events please contact the Events team.

AIR Certifications

Certification in MRI, Mammography and CT are available through the Institute. As a member, significant discounts apply for all fees relating to certification and renewal. For more information on any of the below certifications or to register for an upcoming exam, please refer to the AIR website, www.air.asn.au/accreditation.php.

Magnetic Resonance Imaging

Currently, the AIR offers Certificates of Accreditation in MRI Level 1 and Level 2. MRI accreditation can present many opportunities in the workplace to enhance your career. The exam for Level 1 accreditation is held twice a year in each state.

Mammography

There are two levels of certification in Mammography. To gain a Certificate of Clinical Proficiency in Mammography (CCPM) the applicant must be a radiographer and must have undertaken an AIR-accredited mammography course. The certification is for 5 years.

Radiographers holding a CCPM may apply for the Advanced Breast Imaging Certificate (ABIC) if they fulfil the requirements.

Computed Tomography

Computed Tomography (CT) has undergone significant technical advancements since its introduction, none more so than in the last 10 years since the advent of multi-slice technology. Due to these increases in technology, as well as the advancing role of radiographers, the AIR has begun the implementation of a CT certification programme. The programme aims to recognise the significant additional skills, training and experience radiographers possess to ensure a safe, high-quality CT examination for all patients.

The programme will consist of 2 levels, the first being intermediate CT practitioner level and the second being advanced CT practitioner level. The CT intermediate certification exam is held twice a year in each state.



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Membership Entitlements

	Student	Provisional	Ordinary & Fellow	Non-Active	Overseas	Associate	Non-Member CPD Programme
3-year Validated Statement of Accreditation (VSoA)	N/A	Provisional Accreditation Issued	YES	YES	YES	-	YES^
Inclusion in the CPD Triennium	-	YES	YES	YES	YES	-	YES
Professional Indemnity, Public Liability and Products Liability Insurance up to \$20 million with unlimited 'run-off' cover	YES*	YES	YES	-	-	-	-
Complimentary access to MRLO Units of Learning and Resources	-	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	-
Discounts for attendance at AIR activities and ASMMIRT	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	-
Post-nominals (MIR, FIR etc)	-	-	YES	YES	YES	-	-
Associate membership with ISRRT - International Society of Radiographers and Radiological Technologists	-	-	YES	-	-	-	-
Corporate benefits - Qantas Club, Volkswagen, Hertz	-	-	YES	YES	YES	-	-
Access to Library and Borrowing Services	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	-
AIR-funded Scholarships	YES	YES	YES	YES#	-	-	-
Journal and magazine subscriptions - quarterly Journal of Medical Radiation Sciences, 10 Spectrums, 1 Annual Report	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	-
Speciality Certification in MRI, Mammography (CCPM) and CT	-	-	YES reduced fees	YES must hold current VSoA	YES	-	YES fees apply

* AIR Student Members benefit from Aon's professional indemnity insurance cover during their university clinical placements and also outside of their placement, providing that they are working within their scope of professional training and practice and that they are subject to direct supervision at all times by a registered MRS practitioner who is a financial member of AIR.

Non-Active Members should always check the conditions of applying for AIR-funded scholarships to ensure they are eligible.

^ A one-year VSoA will be issued when a practitioner enrolls in the Non-Member CPD Programme for the first year. Once they have complied with the required CPD, they will be issued a three-year VSoA automatically at the beginning of the following year.