

Speaking points for the fluoroscopy bill:

- The education is a nationwide, accepted, standardized program jointly developed by the AAPA and AART.
- Radiation Safety is a significant portion of the educational program and is more than most Radiation Technologists (RT) and Physicians receive during their training.
- The law currently allows any physician to administer ionizing radiation regardless of their training or when the training was given.
- PAs are requesting the privilege to utilize fluoroscopy, not other modes of radiation.
- PAs are not independent providers, and all fluoroscopy will be performed within state guidelines and the supervisory guidelines developed by the Medical Staff Bylaws in which the PA and physician work.
- The types of procedures performed by a PA will be determined at the practice level.
- Access to care and the efficiency of care will increase once PAs are performing fluoroscopy.
 - With additional providers available to perform the procedures, waiting times will improve and/or patient discharges will be timelier.
 - Physicians will have more time to devote to performing more involved procedures and/or to interpret other studies.
 - Patient and other physician satisfaction will improve with decreased waiting times and improved reporting of results.
 - Physicians and/or RTs currently have to come to a procedure being done by a PA to “step on the pedal”. They will be utilized more effectively in other areas which will improve overall efficiency.
 - Patient safety and comfort will improve as fluoroscopy can be used by PAs in situations like reducing fractures and removing foreign bodies. Without this modality, especially if there is no RT or physician available, patients may be required to endure other longer or more painful procedures.
- Fluoroscopy is not only used in Radiology, PAs would be able to use fluoro in fields such as cardiology, orthopedics, neurosurgery, emergency medicine with the same improvements to patient care.
- Many physicians in disciplines that use fluoroscopy at the “grass-roots” level are in favor of PAs performing fluoroscopy as they appreciate the value PAs provide their patients and practices.
- Monitoring of quality and safety would be in the same manner as physicians.
- There should be little concern about PAs replacing physician positions or taking reimbursement from physicians or practices as all PA reimbursement is sent to the employer (hospitals or practices). PAs would perform these procedures at a more cost-effective rate.