



## Health Career Directory

### Electrodiagnostic Technologist

#### Overview

The Electrodiagnostic (EDS) technologist performs a variety of invasive and non-invasive diagnostic tests and specialized procedures. They work in the fields of cardiology, urology, and gastroenterology, and the routine maintenance of equipment.

Using a personal computer and related software, they perform database functions including:

- editing of electrocardiograms
- storage and retrieval of test and procedure records
- related clerical duties.

An Electrodiagnostic Technologist's main duties can also include:

- Explaining both routine and specialized procedures to prepare patients for tests.
- Answering test related questions.
- Referring questions to other members of the multidisciplinary team as appropriate.
- Preparing, performing, recording, and editing data for interpretation of a variety of invasive and non-invasive procedures. These can include: Pressure Flow Cystometry, Voiding Flow, Esophageal Motility Tests, and 24 hour Ph/Impedance studies.
- Performing non-invasive cardiology testing. This might involve: resting electrocardiograms (ECG's), pacemaker ECG's with and without magnets in accordance with doctor's orders, treadmill stress tests including nitro protocol as required, 24 hour blood pressure monitor hook-ups, and 24 hour holter monitor hook-ups, according to departmental policies and procedures.
- Performing ECG's by attaching electrodes to the patient and operating cardiac equipment. Documenting data such as position of patient, physical symptoms, and changes in lead positions as required. Performing modified and special lead procedures following established policies and procedures.
- Performing Tilt Table Testing, MIBI treadmills, and the exercise tolerance testing portion of Stress Echocardiograms. This involves recording ECG's, blood pressure, and time and dosage of administered drugs. As well as identifying and printing abnormalities according to established procedures.

- Participating as a member of the health care team by working together in the provision of quality, patient/client-centered care. In addition, promoting effective communication with patients/clients, caregivers, families, visitors and staff.
- Performing routine calibration and maintenance of equipment. This can include cleaning, inspecting, calibrating, and replacing parts such as batteries, leads and paper. Reporting any malfunction to the appropriate authority. Maintaining an adequate stock of necessary supplies in accordance with established procedures.
- Utilizing computerized systems to maintain patient and hospital records. This includes obtaining and entering patient demographics, histories, and charts as required. This task is in agreement with department policies, procedures and professional practices standards.
- Completing documentation and preparing recordings for interpretation by designated medical staff and performing database functions. These might include: identification, verification, editing, updating, and retrieval of test and procedure records.
- Performing related clerical duties. These might include: filing, photocopying, recording retention, checking patients-in, completing procedures, and answering the telephone, as required.
- Participating in Continuous Quality Improvement. This involves conducting audits, completing reports, monitoring clinical indicators and satisfaction surveys, providing feedback, following up on risk factors, and making recommendations for improvements.
- Assisting doctors with research and the development of new diagnostic procedures. Assisting in clinical research projects, as required.
- Acting as a resource person by collegially sharing, demonstrating and providing guidance regarding Electrodiagnostic technologist procedures to other staff, students and other members of the multidisciplinary health care team.
- Demonstrating personal initiative in being up to date professionally and by participating in relevant educational activities.
- Performing other related duties as assigned.

### **Who is suited to become an Electrodiagnostic Technologist?**

An Electrodiagnostic Technologist is most effective when they have the following skills and characteristics:

- ability to observe and assess clients/patients
- operate related equipment, including computerized systems
- communicate well, both verbally and in writing
- deal well with others
- participate as a member of a multidisciplinary team; and
- are disciplined and organized.

### **Salary**

\$25.62 – \$33.88 per hour

### **Required Training and Education to Become an Electrodiagnostic Technologist**

- Canadian Society of Cardiology Technologists (CSCT) certification as a Cardiology Technologist.
- Completion of a recognized Cardiology Technologist program at the diploma level.
- Eligible for specialty certification with the Canadian Society of Cardiology Technologists (CSCT).

- Three (3) years of recent and related experience, or an equivalent combination of education, training, and experience.
- Demonstrated knowledge of non-invasive diagnostic tests and specialized procedures in the fields of cardiology, urology, and gastroenterology.
- A willingness to participate in specialized training career advancement.

### **Career Advancement**

Electrodiagnostic technology can be a very rewarding profession. Most Electrodiagnostic technologists stay in clinical practice for a long time as they enjoy providing direct care to their patients, and working in a team environment.

### **Resources**

#### **Education Programs**

British Columbia Institute of Technology (BCIT)  
<http://www.bcit.ca/study/programs/530adiplt>

Steinberg College  
<http://www.stenbergcollege.com/>

Vancouver Island Institute of Medical Technology  
<http://www.pctia.bc.ca/listings?institution=3503>

Mohawk College of Applied Art & Technology  
<http://www.mohawkc.on.ca/>

Everest College of Business, Technology, and Health Care  
<http://www.everest.ca/>

College Communautaire du Nouveau-Brunswick,  
<http://www.ccnb.nb.ca/accueil.aspx>

Centre for Arts and Technology  
 Vancouver Island Institute of Medical Technology  
<http://184.71.21.35/viimt/>

#### **Financial assistance and bursaries**

For information about Canada student loans and grants, please visit:  
[http://www.hrsdc.gc.ca/eng/learning/canada\\_student\\_loan/index.shtml](http://www.hrsdc.gc.ca/eng/learning/canada_student_loan/index.shtml)

#### **Association**

Canadian Society of Cardiology Technologists  
<http://www.csct.ca/>