



Ultrasound Guidelines Council

P.O. Box 5097
Bozeman, MT 59717-5097

Ph: 406-581-9071

Fax: 406-585-4685

<http://www.ultrasoundbeef.com>

Ultrasound Guidelines Council Revised Policy for Re-certification in Absentia

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Introduction

For several years, experienced Ultrasound Guidelines Council (UGC) Field Technicians have been permitted to renew their certification in absentia. Requirements were based on minimum annual image counts with acceptable image quality. However, image quality (IQ) standards for re-certification in absentia were never established. UGC labs score images on a scale from 1 to 7, where 1 & 2 = acceptable; 3, 4 & 5 = marginal; and 6 & 7 = rejected. Rejected images are not interpreted by UGC labs.

During the summer of 2010, IQ data submitted by Absentia Techs (i.e., technicians who had re-certified in absentia) for the period of January 2007 through June 2010 were summarized. Based on these analyses and input received from UGC technicians, the UGC Board established new qualifying standards for re-certification in absentia on October 8, 2010.

New Standards for Re-certification of Field Technicians in Absentia

- These standards apply to technicians applying for re-certification in absentia in 2011 and beyond.
- At the time of application, the technician must:
 - Be currently certified by UGC.
 - Have scanned a minimum 3,000 head with images scored for IQ
 - Have scanned a minimum of 250 head per year with IQ data during the current certification period.
- Demonstrated IQ that meets or exceeds the thresholds presented in the table below.
 - Image quality standards apply to images submitted to UGC labs in 2011 and beyond.
 - Percentages shall be calculated based on all images submitted to all UGC labs during the current certification period.

Image Type	Percent Marginal	Percent Rejected
RIB	6.0%	0.6%
IMF	5.0%	0.5%
RUMP	1.0%	0.1%