

## Examination Protocols and Authorisation Protocols for Medical CT Radiation Exposures

### Musculo-Skeletal Referrals including Spine

CHH & HRI

#### The Ionising Radiation (Medical Exposure) Regulations 2017

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Consultation Process			
Advice, Guidance and agreement sought from:			
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## INTRODUCTION

This document is written to ensure that departmental process conforms with the Ionising Radiation (Medical Exposure) Regulations 2017 (IRMER 2017).

## PURPOSE

1. Exam Protocols: This document ensures the CT department is compliant with regulation 6(4) of the Ionising Radiation (Medical Exposure) Regulations 2017. Regulation 6(4) requires employers to write exposure protocols associated with medical exposures. It is a legal requirement for all IRMER Practitioners and IRMER Operators to follow these procedures

2. Authorisation Protocol: This document ensures the CT department is compliant with regulation 11(5) of the Ionising Radiation (Medical Exposure) Regulations 2017. If a patient attends the CT department and their request conforms to the criteria set out in this document, the IRMER Operator is entitled to authorise the individual medical exposure detailed in the request.

## PROCEDURES

History	Scan Request	Question needing to be answered	Protocol	Delegated to Radiographer Authorisation
Known Fracture	C Spine	Follow up	C Spine	Y
Post Op spinal Fixation	T Spine	? Position of operative implants	T Spine	Y
Known Fracture		Follow up		Y
Low back pain. MRI contraindicated	L Spine	? Spinal stenosis	L Spine	Y
Low back pain.		? Spondylithesis		Y
Post Op spinal Fixation		? Position of operative implants		Y
Known Fracture		Follow up		Y
Pain. Limited range of movements	Extremity	? Loose bodies / Fracture	Extremity	Y
ORIF / Joint replacement		? Position of implants		Y
Complex Fracture		? Position of fragments		Y

## PROCESS FOR MONITORING COMPLIANCE

Regular audit shall take place to ensure radiographers are authorising according to this protocol. Results shall be presented to CTOG / RPA

## REFERENCES

Royal College of Radiologists (2012) iRefer 7<sup>th</sup> Ed. Royal College of Radiologists [http://portal.e-lfh.org.uk/myElearning/Index?HierarchyId=0\\_28429](http://portal.e-lfh.org.uk/myElearning/Index?HierarchyId=0_28429) accessed 18/01/2016