

PRESS STATEMENT

For immediate release

Wednesday 26 November 2008

**Royal College of Radiologists welcomes NICE guidelines on
Metastatic Spinal Cord Compression**

Responding to the publication by the National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) of their clinical guidelines on metastatic spinal cord compression, Professor Andy Adam, President of the Royal College of Radiologists, said, "This report is welcomed by both our Faculties of Clinical Oncology and Clinical Radiology, as a very significant step forward in the coordinated and timely management of patients with metastatic spinal cord compression (MSCC).

"The report provides a structure by which the medical workforce can be better informed of MSCC as a potential diagnosis, and through which multi-disciplinary teams can provide appropriate, urgent, and coordinated assessment, management and treatment for these patients.

"The earlier detection of MSCC is likely to lead to an increased demand for whole spinal MRI and other scans, and we would hope that proper provision is made, in terms of available workforce and equipment. The detailed implementation of the guidelines will also need to be considered locally."

Notes to Editors

1. For further information, please contact Dan Garbutt, Communications Officer, on 020 7299 1138 or dan_garbutt@rcr.ac.uk
2. The Royal College of Radiologists (RCR) has approximately 7600 members and Fellows worldwide, representing the disciplines of clinical oncology and clinical radiology. The role of the RCR is to advance the science and practice of radiology and oncology, further public education, and promote study and research through setting professional standards of practice.
3. The guidelines, *Metastatic spinal cord compression: diagnosis and management of adults at risk of and with metastatic spinal cord compression*, can be found at the [NICE website](#).