



The Royal College Of Radiologists

PRESS STATEMENT

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Personally initiated CT scanning: the Royal College of Radiologists responds to COMARE report

The Royal College of Radiologists welcomes the report from the Committee on Medical Aspects of Radiation in the Environment (COMARE), on personally initiated x-ray computed tomography (CT) scanning.

Dr Gill Markham, Vice-President of the College and a member of the COMARE subcommittee which drew up the report, said, "The Royal College of Radiologists fully supports and endorses the recommendations in COMARE's report. Radiologists will always consider the risks inherent in any radiological investigation, and balance them against the potential benefit to the individual. In the case of "whole body scanning" services, the College supports the conclusion of COMARE's report, that the potential risks outweigh the benefits. It is important to make clear that CT scanning in the context of illness is an invaluable technique, essential to the practice of modern medicine.

"The College welcomes opportunities to work with the Department of Health and the companies involved on rigorous standards of practice for these services, and the development of a regulatory framework."

Notes to Editors

1. The College's statement from 2004 regarding private CT screening is [here](#) (PDF).
2. For further information, please contact the Royal College of Radiologists' Communications Officer on 020 7299 1138, or dan_garbutt@rcr.ac.uk
3. A full copy of COMARE's 12th report, *The impact of personally initiated x-ray computed tomography scanning for the health assessment of asymptomatic individuals*, can be downloaded from www.comare.org.uk
4. The Royal College of Radiologists (RCR) has approximately 7,500 members and Fellows worldwide representing the disciplines of clinical oncology and clinical radiology. All members and Fellows of the College are registered medical or dental practitioners.