Safe Radiology for Junior Doctors: Closed – loop Audit

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Background

Despite being the largest imaging requesting cohort, Junior doctors’ awareness of the IR(ME)R 2000 regulations and their relevance to radiology requesting is unclear. We aim to investigate knowledge of these regulations using a questionnaire developed by the Royal College of Radiologists (RCR).

Standards

100% positive response to each questionnaire.

Questions

Q1 Are you aware of any governmental regulations on radiation?
Q2 Are you aware of any legal obligation to provide accurate information when requesting imaging?
Q3 Are you aware that the department of radiology has the right to withdraw radiology ‘ordering’ rights?
Q4 Are you aware of the book ‘Making the best use of clinical radiology services’?
Q5 Estimated equivalent doses in CXRs (correct / 4)
Q7 Have you been asked by a senior colleague to request imaging and been unsure of the indication?
Q8 Do you feel you have had adequate teaching regarding appropriate radiology referrals?

Targets

Foundation Year doctors working at General Surgical department, St Helier Hospital.

Methodology

The “Foundation Doctors – Radiation Legislation Awareness Questionnaire,” produced by the RCR, were distributed within a 2 week period in December 2015. An intervention was put in place and a re-audit was completed in March 2016.

1st action plan

We developed a condensed teaching resource designed to impart practical guidance for junior doctors on the implications of IR(ME)R 2000 and incorporated this into the local Foundation Doctors teaching programme.

2nd action plan

We continue to ensure the radiology resource is being used as part of the Foundation Doctors teaching programme. Our plan is to re-audit in one year to ensure standards are maintained as junior doctors rotate through the hospital.

References


Ionising Radiation (Medical Exposure) Regulations 2000 (IRMER), London: Department of Health, 2012