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ECR 2022 / C-17127

Radiographers' perceptions on the implementation of European BSS Directive (2013/59/Euratom): A local study

Congress:

ECR 2022

Poster Number:

C-17127

Type:

Scientific Exhibit

Keywords:

Professional issues, Radioprotection / Radiation dose, Conventional radiography, CT, Fluoroscopy, Audit and standards, Health policy and practice, Education and training, Quality assurance

Authors:

J. Anastácio, R. P. P. Almeida, L. P. V. Ribeiro

DOI:

10.26044/ecr2022/C-17127

DOI-Link:<https://dx.doi.org/10.26044/ecr2022/C-17127>

Purpose

The field of medical imaging, like others in the area of healthcare provision, evolves and operates within complex environments. Thus, it must be a constant goal, maintaining and improving the levels of quality and safety, depending on the development of systems and a culture that can integrate individuals with technology and processes 1,2. The promotion of analysis or review of imaging procedures, motivated by the risk of ionizing radiation, is essential to improve the quality and related outcomes of care provided to the patient 3,4...

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Methods and materials

Based on the assumptions of the Regulatory Audit and Clinical Audit of the European Society of Radiology (ESPERANTO), a self-administered questionnaire was created and delivered to a total of 26 radiographers (response rate of 77%) from a local portuguese hospital. We followed the recommendation of the ESR of the entire patient path being subject to scrutiny following a sustained approach in the triad of quality evaluation of Donabedian (Structure, Processes and Results/Outcomes)¹⁰. The questions were grouped in dimensions, constructed within each of the Donabedian categories,...

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Results

The global analysis revealed a low level of compliance with the BSS European Directive. Specifically, on average, the "Structure", "Process" and "Results" categories achieved compliance of 20%, 10% and 8%, respectively. The lack of written procedures and protocols was verified, not complying with the new legal requirements. Most imaging equipment registers and sends a dose report, and radiographers have the necessary training that allows them to be aware of this new reality. All dose reports are stored in the digital file, but their communication to...

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Conclusion

In this study, according to radiographers, there is a deep need to implement the legal requirements in this imaging department, especially regarding the description of procedures and respective responsibilities, the implementation of procedures and protocols for the different imaging modalities, and in communication doses to patients.

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Personal information and conflict of interest

J. Anastácio: Nothing to disclose R. P. P. Almeida: Nothing to disclose L. P. V. Ribeiro: Nothing to disclose

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References

Larson, D. B., Kruskal, J. B., Krecke, K. N. & Donnelly, L. F. Key Concepts of Patient Safety in Radiology. *RadioGraphics* 35, 1677–1693 (2015). Harvey, H. B. & Sotardi, S. T. “Quality in Practice”: An Introduction to a New Bimonthly Column Focused on Radiology Quality and Safety. *J. Am. Coll. Radiol.* 14, 1062–1063 (2017). EURATOM. Diretiva 2013/59/Euratom Do Conselho. *J. Of. da União Eur.* 13, 1–73 (2014). Lau & Ng, K. *Radiological Safety and Quality.* (Springer Netherlands, 2014). doi:10.1007/978-94-007-7256-4. Howlett, D. C., Brady, A. P.,...

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Category	Questions	Wishes checked
Chain of authority and security responsibility		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> organization chart in the department validation of quality manual in the department written and approved files for the operation of all things
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> periodic replacement of equipment identification of equipment, name and serial number security of the premises insurance of the equipment approval from the radiation protection
Standards	Knowledge of professionals on radiological protection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> periodic replacement of equipment identification of equipment, name and serial number security of the premises insurance of the equipment approval from the radiation protection
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> periodic replacement of equipment identification of equipment, name and serial number security of the premises insurance of the equipment approval from the radiation protection
Procedures and protocols	Quality control and assurance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> manuals of procedures in the department validation of protocols
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> manuals of procedures in the department validation of protocols
Information systems		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> validation of images validation of correct they are used statements in medical reports
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> validation of images validation of correct they are used statements in medical reports
Findings	Methodology for evaluating image results	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> validation of images validation of correct they are used statements in medical reports
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> validation of images validation of correct they are used statements in medical reports

Fig 1: (Table 1) Research Framework demonstrating the variables assessed in this study.

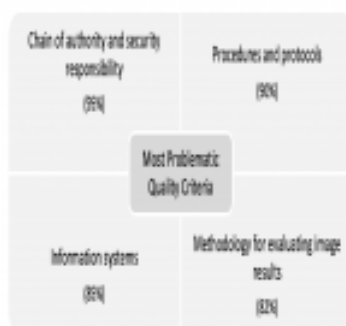


Fig 2: (Table 2) Most problematic quality criteria identified by Pareto Analysis.

Creation of a Department Quality Manual
Define radiographer's response for medical physics issues
Training to everyone involved in the justification process
Monitoring protocol compliance
Serial DRGs for the different imaging modalities
Creation of a statement of risks, benefits and alternatives to a given procedure, to be provided to patients
Creation of a standardized procedure for checking pregnancy status

Fig 3: (Table 3) Proposed improvement actions



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