

Employers Procedure 14

Ramsay IR(ME)R Employers Procedure

Employers Procedure Number: IR-001/ Employers Procedure 14

Employers Procedure Title: Non-Medical Imaging

1. Governing Policy

- IR-001 Employer Procedures Employers Statement

2. The Procedure

2.1. Introduction

- 2.1.1. Non-medical imaging (NMI) exposures are defined as exposures that do not give a direct health benefit to the individual undergoing the exposure. IR(ME)R 17 applies to NMI exposures performed using medical radiological equipment.
- 2.1.2. Examples of NMI are:
- Assessment for employment purposes (occupational health checks)
 - Assessment for Immigration/Emigration purposes (Visa application)
 - Assessment for Insurance purposes (medico-legal claims)
 - Assessment of Radiological age (bone age hand x-rays)
 - Identification of concealed objects within the body
- 2.1.3. Alternative, non-ionising imaging modalities, such as ultrasound or MRI shall be used where possible providing that sufficient diagnostic information can be obtained.

2.2. Procedure for Non-medical imaging referrals

- 2.2.1. NMI must follow the IR(ME)R framework as set out in,
- The Employers Procedures,
 - Employers Procedure 1 – Patient Identification
 - Employers Procedure 3 a, b, c Schedule 2(b) - Entitlement Referrers, Practitioners and Operators
 - Employers Procedure 3d Justification and Authorisation
- 2.2.2. A written request detailing the need for the exposure shall be provided by an entitled Referrer. All requests for the use of ionising radiation must clearly state the name, status, signature and contact details of the referrer and give sufficient information for the referral to be justified by the IR(ME)R Practitioner. Alternatives to the standard referral form may be permitted, but the examination requested and the reasons for the request must be clearly defined.
- 2.2.3. Only NMI referrals from Consultant Medical Practitioners will be accepted by Ramsay Health Care UK. In these instances, the Referrer will be the Consultant Radiologist that has interpreted the medical referral and requests the specific imaging. In that the Consultant Radiologist will act as both Referrer and Practitioner.
- 2.2.4. The Practitioner is responsible for deciding whether the requested procedure falls into the category of a non-medical exposure. If the practitioner is in any doubt as to the value of a non-medical exposure, they should seek further information from the referrer.
- 2.2.5. Justification for the exposure will be made by a practitioner with sufficient entitlement. The Radiology Manager must ensure that all relevant practitioners have specific NMI entitlement.

- 2.2.6. The availability of the previous imaging should be considered as part of the justification and authorisation process.
- 2.2.7. An individual protocol, along with the body part to be imaged, should be provided by the justifying practitioner to that ensure the exposure is optimised.
- 2.2.8. Wherever possible another modality such as ultrasound or MRI will be considered.
- 2.2.9. The responsibility for adherence to the appropriate protocol lies with the Operator
- 2.2.10. NMI exposures will only be undertaken with the consent of the patient (in the case of chest radiography for emigration purposes, the patient's signature on the relevant forms will be taken to imply consent). In all other cases, the request will be vetted by the appropriate radiologist (acting as IR(ME)R Practitioner).
- 2.2.11. Any non-medical imaging procedure must be reported for a clinical evaluation by a Radiologist and where coincidental findings are noted that require medical attention, the practitioner is responsible for ensuring that the individual is referred to the appropriate care pathway.
- 2.2.12. Any additional projections or investigations, which may be required as a result of the initial investigation, must be medically justified.
- 2.2.13. Where practicable, local DRLs for standard NMI exposures should be established. For further detail refer to Employers procedures 7, Schedule 2(f) Use and review of DRL's

3. Approval

Individual Approval			
If you are happy to approve this document, please sign and date it and forward to the chair of the committee/group where it will receive final approval.			
Name	Abiola Adebayo	Date	27/08/2021
Signature			
Committee Approval			
If the committee is happy to approve this document, please sign and date it and forward electronic copies to the Integrated Governance Assistant who has responsibility for disseminating and implementing the document and for maintaining the organisation's database of approved policies and procedural documents.			
Name	Viv Heckford	Date	25.08.21
Signature			

4. References