



e-RADS

Radiation Safety for non-radiological hospital staff



An interactive e-learning resource supporting the training of non-radiological staff exposed to ionising radiations

Radiation Protection for Hospital Staff in Compliance with the Requirements of the Ionising Radiations Regulations 1999

e-RADS addresses the regulatory requirements of the Ionising Radiations Regulations 1999. These require staff, who are not closely involved with the work involving ionising radiations, to be provided with suitable information, to avoid them being unnecessarily exposed.

e-RADS was originally developed between the Plymouth Hospital NHS Trust and e-Learning for Healthcare. The material has since been revised with the support of expert authors within the wider NHS. It is designed to provide an e-learning resource for hospital staff. It covers basic radiation protection for staff who come into contact with patients undergoing medical exposure to ionising radiations.

It uses an interactive e-learning approach to improve staff safety by providing them with the information, knowledge and understanding of the different types of radiation sources that can be used within the hospital environment. It identifies the importance of following the safety precautions that are in place to reduce the risks associated with radiation and the basic principles associated with keeping their own exposure As Low As Reasonably Practicable (ALARP).

It is aimed at those staff who work in areas where patients are exposed to x-rays or treated with radioactive substances who would not normally receive any formal training to work with radiation e.g. ward and theatre staff. Staff who operate x-ray units should refer to the e-IRMER sessions.

The areas covered include radiotherapy, including external beam, brachytherapy and unsealed source therapy; diagnostic imaging using x-rays, both planar imaging and fluoroscopy, and nuclear medicine; and interventional radiography and cardiology. The sessions will be of value to ward and theatre staff, porters, facilities, catering, domestic and mortuary staff. The content will also be of value to managers and patient representatives.

e-RADS provides staff with an understanding of the types of controls in place to warn of radiation hazards, the monitoring available for some staff and the protective devices or methods used to keep doses ALARP. The differences between the risks associated with high dose therapies and lower dose diagnostic uses of radiation, and the difference between radioactive substances and x-rays, are all considered. Staff will also gain a better perspective on the magnitude of the radiation risks involved and why it can be appropriate in many cases not to be over-concerned.



To access e-RADS, go to www.e-lfh.org.uk/projects/radiation-safety/access-the-e-learning/



For more information, go to www.e-lfh.org.uk/projects/radiation-safety/