

Dear Authorised Representative

Greetings from the IANZ team! Welcome to the second email Newsletter to Authorised Representatives of IANZ accredited and applicant Radiology Services. Since our first email in March this year, the 2011 NZCRMP has been distributed and is now available for download from the IANZ website (www.ianz.govt.nz). We trust that you have been able to thoroughly familiarise yourselves with this and that adoption of the Code has been relatively smooth. IANZ began conducting assessments against the 2011 NZCRMP from 1 July 2011 and feedback since this time has not identified any serious issues.

Hot Topics

The following is a list of topics that either resulted from discussion at the August 2011 Radiology Professional Advisory Committee meeting (RADPAC) or that have been noted from recent assessments and may be of interest to radiology services:

QA programme

IANZ personnel presented a summary of Corrective Action Request (CAR) forms raised during the prior 12-month period. This highlighted that the greatest number of CAR forms raised related to equipment and QC. This included either absence of QC checks, failures to adhere to the QA programme, non-completion of QHP survey of required items of equipment or unresolved equipment issues.

These issues may be avoided by services paying special attention to the topic of equipment and QC. Please ensure adequate documentation is completed to show resolution of equipment issues and to provide an audit trail of equipment history.

Laptops utilised for after-hours image check/reporting

Discussion ensued at the RADPAC meeting as to what QC checks need to be completed on laptops and PCs utilised for after-hours image checks/reporting.

The IANZ Offsite Reporting document http://www.ianz.govt.nz/publications2/info_guides.htm needs to be referred to so that clients develop and document a QA programme for laptops and PCs utilised off-site for reviewing of images and reporting.

Contractor radiologist records

If an IANZ accredited service contracts another IANZ accredited service, the primary place of employment of the radiologist must hold copies of personnel records. IANZ will no longer be checking to see if records are held at the secondary site.

However, if radiologists are contracted independent of an accredited service, full records must be held by the subcontracting service.

For non-IANZ accredited services contracted to complete examination reports, the Offsite Reporting document is applicable and records will be expected to be held by the accredited site. (link as previously noted)

Examination report content

New requirements in Section 5.8 Reporting of Examinations state that the "date and time of performance of the examination" shall be included within the report. A number of services do not include the time within the report.

Following the RADPAC meeting it was decided that inclusion of the time or an accession number will need to be included where relevant, such as instances where a patient has multiple examinations completed within a short timeframe.

Details of the use of contrast media and medication given as part of an examination continue to be omitted from examination reports despite this being a requirement.

It is no longer a requirement to include detail of imaging technique within examination reports.

Milton tablets/solution

Earlier this year, ASUM updated the B2 policy regarding the disinfection of transducers http://www.asum.com.au/site/files/P&S/B2_policy.pdf The use of Milton is no longer deemed acceptable and may have a significant impact on some New Zealand services.

Clients are strongly encouraged to review the ASUM statement and implement immediate changes where necessary.

Contrast media checks

Prior to injection, contrast media details must be double checked by a second person for all modalities with the exception of nuclear medicine, where this only applies to therapy examinations.

Nuclear medicine services are encouraged to adopt independent second checking of isotope details for diagnostic examinations.

CPR/first-aid training requirements

Recently there have been numerous enquiries due to conflicting provider guidelines as to the appropriate level of CPR/first-aid training for radiology service personnel.

Consensus at the RADPAC meeting was the level of CPR/first-aid training is ultimately a decision by the Clinical Director for each organisation. A documented policy needs to be established by each organisation.

Management review

Clients are urged to review Section 4.15 Management Review, and in particular bullet points a) to m) under 4.15.2 to confirm that each item is comprehensively included within meeting minutes or other records.

Radiology Professional Advisory Committee (RADPAC)

The annual IANZ RADPAC meeting was held in early August 2011 and once again was a useful forum for discussion of topics pertinent to the industry and accreditation.

Members of the IANZ Radiology Professional Advisory Committee are detailed below:

Dr Richard Beedie (Chairman)	Waitemata District Health Board
Dr Malcolm Baigent	Consultant
Ms Louise Buckley	Medex Radiology Limited
Dr Anthony Doyle	Auckland District Health Board / Manukau Radiology Institute Ltd
Mrs Karen Lissington	Hamilton Radiology Ltd
Dr Neil Morrison	Otago Radiology Ltd
Mrs Jane Peacock	Christchurch Radiology Group
Dr Robert Sim	Auckland Radiology Group
Dr Kevin Smidt	Palmerston North Hospital
Dr Fergus Thomson	Radiological Physics Consultants Limited

IANZ Staff

On a final note, Suzanne Cullen resigned and finished up with the IANZ radiology team in early October. Sharon Thomas has subsequently been recruited and commenced her training in early November. She has extensive clinical and managerial experience in the Radiology industry and is a great addition to the team. Furthermore, Anne Hofstra – Programme Manager of the Chemical/Biological/Dairy Testing Programme, and Graham Walker – contractor will be assisting Jane Busby with the completion of assessments as an interim measure until Sharon has completed her training. Jen Ferguson continues to provide administrative support to the programme.

If you have any questions regarding the content of this email, please feel free to contact any of the team.

The Radiology team plans to become more environmentally friendly and rely less on postal services in 2012. You will be advised of any impact on you, as a client, when changes are ready to be rolled out.

The team at IANZ would like to thank all our clients for their continued support.

Have a safe and Happy Christmas and we look forward to seeing you in the New Year!