

**Title**

IR(ME)R Proc B1 – Authorised Referrers for Radiological Examinations to the Imaging Departments of Newcastle Upon Tyne Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

**Author**

Radiation Protection Committee/IR(ME)R Governance Group

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**Superseded Documents**

Version 8.2

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**Reviewed with the Following User Groups**

Radiology Manager(s)  
Modality Superintendent Radiographers  
Radiation Protection Committee

**Approval & Review Process Initiated by**

Kevin Robson

**Approved by**

Radiation Protection Committee

**Filename**

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NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE HOSPITALS NHS FOUNDATION TRUST

**RADIATION PROTECTION COMMITTEE**

**Authorised Referrers for Radiological Examinations to the Imaging Departments of Newcastle Upon Tyne Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust**

The Ionising Radiation (Medical Exposure) Regulations 2017 state that the Trust must have a procedure to identify individuals entitled to act as authorised referrers for imaging procedures utilising ionising radiation. The following is such a list, together with the procedures which the referrer is authorised to request/excluded from requesting.

**For referrals into all imaging departments (excluding the Newcastle Dental Hospital and radiotherapy), the following list should be consulted:**

**For details of referrers in NCCC, see the NCCC IRMER patient pathway policy**

<b>Referrer</b>	<b>Procedures Authorised To Request (see below for referrals into Newcastle Dental Hospital)</b>
Newcastle upon Tyne Hospitals NHS Trust Consultants, Career Grade Medical Staff .	All
University Medical Staff with honorary medical appointments.	All
Trust Training Grade Medical Staff .	All
Newcastle & North Tyneside GPs.	All
Newcastle & North Tyneside GDPs.	All
Other NHS Consultant, GPs, Dentists.	All following discussion with a Trust Practitioner
Practitioner Associates	None

**For referrals into the Newcastle Dental Hospital, the following list should be consulted:**

**Consultants / Dentists on the specialist lists:**

**Oral Surgery, Oral Medicine, Maxillofacial Surgery, ENT, Plastic Surgery:**

Plain images, Cone-beam CT<sup>1</sup> , Ultrasound, Sialo, Dacro

**Ophthalmology:**

Cone-beam CT<sup>1</sup>, Ultrasound, Dacro

**Rheumatology:**

Cone-beam CT, Ultrasound, Sialo

**Orthodontics, Paediatrics, Restorative Dentistry, Endodontics, Prosthodontics, Dental Sedation, Special Care Dentistry:**

Plain images, Cone-beam CT<sup>1</sup>, Ultrasound

<sup>1</sup> CBCT referrals- accepted from consultants/ specialists and those clinicians who have completed at least level 1 CBCT training.

**Specialty Registrars, Specialty Dentists and Specialty Doctors:**

Plain images, ultrasound and Cone-beam CT (if countersigned by a consultant)

**General Dental Practitioners (GDP), Community & Salaried Dentists, NDH Trainee Dentists GPT 1/ GP2 & Dental Core Trainee (DCT) having attained BDS qualification, or equivalent, and full General Dental Council Registration:**

Plain images only

**Master's program students:**

Plain imaging only . They will require a counter signature from their consultant for Cone-beam CT

**Dental Students & Dental therapy students** are not entitled to refer for Dental and Maxillofacial Radiology unless the request is countersigned.

Other registered health care professionals operating under a protocol agreed by Radiology and the Directorate concerned and authorised by the Trust Clinical Role Development (Non Medical) Group:

<b>Referrer</b>	<b>Examinations Authorised to request</b>
Advanced Critical Care Practitioners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ X-Ray</li> <li>▪ CT</li> <li>▪ MRU</li> <li>▪ US</li> </ul>
Ante-Natal Renal Co-ordinator (Specialist Obstetric Sonographer)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ MCUG</li> <li>▪ DMSA</li> <li>▪ MAG3</li> <li>▪ Renal US</li> </ul>
Arthroplasty Nurse Specialist	X-rays of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Hip</li> <li>▪ Knee</li> </ul>
Audiology Technician	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ MRI</li> </ul>
Bone Marrow Transplant Nurse Specialist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ MUGA and GFR</li> </ul>
Breast Care and Reconstruction Nurse Specialist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Bone scans</li> <li>▪ Sentinel Lymph Node Biopsy</li> </ul>
Breast Clinic Outpatient Nurses (Band 6 and above)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Mammography</li> <li>▪ Breast US</li> </ul>
Cardiology Nurse Specialist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Myocardial perfusion scan</li> </ul>
Cardiothoracic Nurse Specialist Practitioner	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>UNDER REVIEW</b></li> </ul>
Chemotherapy Nurse Specialist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ MUGA and GFR</li> </ul>
Complex Lung Disease Nurse Specialist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ X-ray Chest</li> <li>▪ DEXA</li> <li>▪ Radiology guided line insertion</li> </ul>
Critical Care Sister	X-rays of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Chest</li> <li>▪ Abdomen</li> </ul>
Emergency Nurse Practitioner	X-Rays of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Upper limb, including shoulder girdle</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Lower limb</li> <li>▪ Chest</li> <li>▪ Hip</li> <li>▪ OPG</li> <li>▪ Children under 5 years of age – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Mid humerus to phalanges</li> <li>▪ Mid femur to phalanges</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Emergency Care Practitioners and Nurse Practitioners (Freeman Clinics Ltd)	X-Rays of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Upper limb, including shoulder girdle</li> <li>▪ Lower limb</li> <li>▪ Chest</li> <li>▪ Hip</li> <li>▪ Children under 5 years of age – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Mid humerus to phalanges</li> <li>▪ Mid femur to phalanges</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Extended Scope Spinal Specialist Physiotherapist	X-rays of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Spine</li> <li>▪ Pelvis / hip</li> </ul> MRI <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Spine</li> </ul>
Fracture Clinic Nurses in Spinal Clinics	X-rays of spine as per protocol
Hospital at Night Nurse Practitioners	X-rays of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Chest</li> <li>▪ Abdomen</li> </ul>
Lung Cancer Nurse Specialist	Medical Physics Examination for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ GFR</li> </ul>
MSK Sonographers	X-rays of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Areas where there is a suspicion of calcification on US examination</li> </ul>
NCCC Nurse Practitioner	X-rays of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Chest</li> </ul>
NCCC Research Nurse	Examinations as stipulated in agreed research protocols
Neurosurgical Nurse Specialist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Spine x-rays</li> <li>▪ Spine CT</li> </ul>
Orthopaedic Nurse Practitioner	X-rays of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Pelvis / Hip</li> <li>▪ Knee</li> <li>▪ Foot</li> </ul>
Orthopaedic Physiotherapy Practitioner	X-rays of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Pelvis / hip</li> <li>▪ Knee</li> <li>▪ Ankle</li> <li>▪ Foot</li> </ul> MRI of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Hip</li> <li>▪ Knee</li> <li>▪ Ankle</li> <li>▪ Foot</li> </ul>
Paediatric Nurse Practitioner (UTI pathway)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Renal US</li> <li>▪ MCUG</li> <li>▪ DMSA</li> <li>▪ MAG3</li> </ul>
Pain Management Clinical Nurse Specialist	X-rays of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Cervical spine</li> <li>▪ Thoracic spine</li> <li>▪ Lumbar spine</li> </ul>
Physiotherapy Practitioner	X-rays of:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Shoulder</li> <li>▪ Hand</li> <li>▪ Spine</li> <li>▪ Lower limb</li> </ul>
Podiatrists (including Podiatry referrals from Newcastle Diabetes Centre)	X-rays of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Lower limb</li> <li>▪ Foot</li> </ul>
Preadmission Assessment Nurse	X-rays of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Chest</li> </ul>
Primary Care Nurse Practitioner (Asylum Seekers)	X-rays of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Chest</li> </ul>
Pulmonary Vascular Nurse Specialist	X-rays of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Chest</li> </ul>
Research Physiotherapist	Examinations as stipulated in agreed research protocols
Respiratory Nurse (grade E and above)	X-rays of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Chest</li> </ul>
Rheumatology Physiotherapy Practitioner	X-rays of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Knee</li> <li>▪ Pelvis / Hip</li> <li>▪ Cervical Spine</li> <li>▪ Lumbar Spine</li> <li>▪ SIJ</li> </ul> MRI of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Lumbar Spine (routine)</li> <li>▪ Cervical Spine</li> </ul>
Sonographers	X-rays of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Abdomen</li> </ul>
Speech and Language Therapist	X-rays of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Videofluoroscopy</li> </ul>
Stroke Nurse Practitioner / Stroke Specialist Nurse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ CT Head (unenhanced)</li> <li>▪ Carotid Ultrasound</li> </ul>
Thyroid Cancer Nurse Specialist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Diagnostic Challenge scans</li> <li>▪ Ultrasound of Neck</li> </ul>
Tuberculosis Control Nurse	X-rays of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Chest</li> </ul>
Upper GI/HPB Oncology Specialist Nurse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ MUGA and GFR</li> </ul>

In order for the Trust to fulfil its obligations under the legislation, a record of those staff acting as non-medical referrers must be maintained. It has been agreed by the Trust's Radiation Protection Committee that responsibility for maintaining this list and communicating it lies with the Referrer's Directorate. Each directorate where there are non-medical referrers must therefore:

1. Maintain an up to date list (as given below) of all non-medical staff entitled as referrers along with role, reference to the approved referral protocol, and date of online and optional face-to-face IRMER training. This list must be sent to Clinical Governance and Risk Department (CGARD) for central collation and ratification.
2. Ensure that any staff newly appointed to a relevant role undergo the necessary training and have their names added to list and a notification of the additions made to CGARD.
3. Ensure that any staff members who leave one of the relevant roles are removed from the list and the change notified to CGARD.
4. Follow the established procedures for request of any new non-medical referral protocol.

It should be noted that non-medical staff must be on this referral list in order for their X-ray and nuclear medicine requests to be accepted by imaging departments, and this will be audited by the Trust.

This may not be a comprehensive list as other referrers may be authorised by the Trust between document reviews.

Please note the authorised examinations column only provides an overview of the scope of referral, for the specific elements on each referrer please access the respective Imaging protocol. Imaging protocols approved by RPC and the Clinical Role Development (Non-Medical) Group can be accessed via the link provided below:

<http://nuth-intranet/cms/ClinicalDirectorates/Radiology/Radiation/ApprovedNonMedicalReferrers.aspx>