NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde

ID: DR-GGC-RISK-044

Risk Assessment Form

Use this form for any detailed risk assessment unless a specific form is provided. Refer to your Summary of Hazards/Risks and complete forms as required, including those that are adequately controlled but could be serious in the absence of active management. The Action Plan and reply section is to help you pursue those requiring action.

Name of Initial Assessor / Reviewer:	John McLean	**Post Held:**	MR Safety Expert
Department:	**Imaging**	**Date (Initial Review):**	**17/3/2015**

Subject of Assessment: E.g.: hazard, task, equipment, location, people

MRI scanning of patients where Gadolinium Based Contrasts Agents (GBCA) are required

Hazards (Describe the harmful agent(s) and the adverse consequences they could cause)

Patients with kidney damage or reduced eGFR may receive certain forms of gadolinium contrast agent that would put them at risk of developing Nephrogenic Systemic Fibrosis (NSF).
Contrast may also be passed to a foetus in pregnant patients or breastfed children

Description of Risk

Describe the work that causes exposure to the hazard, and the relevant circumstances. Who is at risk? Highlight significant factors: what makes the risk more or less serious – e.g.: the time taken, how often the work is done, who does it, the work environment, anything else relevant.

The use of GBCA may cause Nephrogenic Systemic Fibrosis (NSF). NSF causes fibrosis of the skin and internal organs, occurs in patients with poor renal function (GFR < 60 ml/min) who have received GBCAs, reported onset of symptoms – few days to 6 months post-contrast. And in most cases, NSF is chronic and unremitting.

As a result of concerns about potential adverse effects of GBCAs on the developing foetus and infant, there are local policies on use of GBCAs in expectant and lactating women. There is a separate risk assessment for pregnant patients that require a GBCA.

Deposition of gadolinium in human tissues as a result of GBCA such as skin, brain, bones and liver.

Patients could have an allergic reaction to contrast administered.

Existing Precautions	**Describe how they might fail to prevent adverse outcomes.**
Staff are familiar with the risks of GBCA and the need to check eGFR's. All patients, prior to receiving any contrast agent, will have their eGFR checked IF there is a possibility of them having renal impairment. This data can be examined by a radiographer and provided it is available within a month a decision can be made whether to scan or not, in accordance with local recommendations. Low or medium risk GBCAs are used throughout NHS GGC. On attending their MRI examination, patients are taken through an extensive MRI safety checklist that can identify if females patients are pregnant or breastfeeding, the decision can be made whether to scan or not, in accordance with local recommendations.	The patient may fail to declare that they have renal impairment of some sort Female patients may fail to declare that they are pregnant or breastfeeding.

Level of Risk - Is the control of this risk adequate?

Give more than one risk level if the assessment covers a range of circumstances. You can use the 'matrix' to show how 'likelihood' and 'consequences' combine to give a conclusion. Also, be critical of existing measures: if you can think how they might fail, or how they could be improved, these are indications of a red or orange risk.

Risk Matrix

Likelihood	Impact/Consequences				
	Negligible	Minor	Moderate	Major	Extreme
Almost Certain	Medium	High	High	V High	V High
Likely	Medium	Medium	High	High	V High
Possible	Low	Medium	Medium	High	High
Unlikely	Low	Medium	Medium	Medium	High
Rare	Low	Low	Low	Medium	Medium

Very High High Medium Low

Current risk level

Given the current precautions, and how effective and reliable they are, what is the current level of risk? **Green** is the target – you have thought it through critically and you have no serious worries. Devise ways of making the risk green wherever you can. **Yellow** is acceptable but with some reservations. You can achieve these levels by reducing the inherent risk and or by effective and reliable precautions.
High (Orange) or Very High (Red) risks are unacceptable and must be acted on: use the Action Plan section to summarise and communicate the problems and actions required.

Action Plan (if risk level is **High (Orange) or Very High (Red)**

Use this part of the form for risks that require action. Use it to communicate, with your Line Manager or Risk Coordinator or others if required. If using a copy of this form to notify others, they should reply on the form and return to you. Check that you do receive replies.

Describe the measures required to make the work safe. Include hardware – engineering controls, and procedures. Say what you intend to change. If proposed actions are out with your remit, identify them on the plan below but do not say who or by when; leave this to the manager with the authority to decide this and allocate the resources required.

Proposed actions to control the problem List the actions required. If action by others is required, you must send them a copy	**By Whom**	**Start date**	**Action due date**

Action by Others Required - Complete as appropriate: (please tick or enter YES, name and date where appropriate)

Report up management chain for action	
Report to Estates for action	
Contact advisers/specialists	
Alert your staff to problem, new working practice, interim solutions, etc	

Reply

If you receive this form as a manager from someone in your department, you must decide how the risk is to be managed. Update the action plan and reply with a copy to others who need to know. If appropriate, you should note additions to the Directorate / Service Risk Register.

If you receive this as an adviser or other specialist, reply to the sender and investigate further as required.

Date of last review:	As per QPulse record	**Next review record:**	As Per QPulse record