

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 | | | |
| Patients with tattoos and/or metal containing make-up undergoing MRI scans | | | |
| Hazards (Describe the harmful agent(s) and the adverse consequences they could cause) | | | |
| It is known that some tattoos and some forms of make-up contain fragments of metal. The Radiofrequency energy used by the MRI scan can induce currents in these fragments of wire, effectively creating a current in the tattoo or make-up which can lead to heating. | | | |
| 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. | | | |
| While very rare, burns as a result of this phenomenon can occur. Most of the burns that have occurred have been of a very mild and transient nature i.e. reddening of tissue which subsides after several hours. | | | |

Existing Precautions

| Summarise current controls in place | Describe how they might fail to prevent adverse outcomes. |
|---|---|
| <p>Identify patients with tattoos or make-up with metal in it prior to conducting the MRI scan.</p> <p>This is achieved by asking the patient about tattoos or make-up as part of the MRI safety checklist procedure.</p> <p>Warn patients with tattoos or make-up with metal in it about the potential for heating to occur and instruct them to press the patient call button should they feel any unusual sensation or heating</p> | <p>It is conceivable that the patient may drop the patient call buzzer during the scan and therefore be unable to press the buzzer should they feel any unusual sensation. However, patients are not typically restricted so much that they could not move during the scan, moreover the radiographer will typically be monitoring the patient throughout the duration of the scan.</p> <p>Patients who are anaesthetized will not be able to respond to heating. In this circumstance, a clear clinical benefit from scanning the patient is required to offset the low risk of an adverse event as a result of heating.</p> |

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 <small>List the actions required. If action by others is required, you must send them a copy</small> | 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 date:

As per QPulse record