**Policy statement template**

**Preface to the use of Generic Implant Safety Policies (GISP)**

**Disclaimer**

Compiled here are Generic Implant Safety Policies (GISP’s) for MRI. While steps have been taken to minimise the risk of adoption of these policies, it should be noted that these are not completely without risk. Health boards, trusts or private medical organisations should consider carefully whether they wish to adopt these policies. If they do, then they do so at their own risk. If you are a patient reading this, then we strongly advise you to contact your healthcare provider directly with any concerns prior to attending for your scan, as approaches may vary.

**Generic benefits of GISP’s**

* Facilitates patient scanning when implant information is not readily available
* Speeds up patient scanning when implant information may take some time to obtain
* Avoids unnecessary patient delays, patient cancellations and patient recalls
* Reduces wasted staff resources required to obtain and evaluate specific implant information
* Empowers and supports staff to make decisions, all day, every day
* Improves consistency across the service, improving equality of patient access

**Generic risks of GISP’s**

* Newly developed unsafe implant
* Previously unidentified unsafe implant
* Previously unreported implant and scanner interaction
* Not all cases of injuries and accidents may be in the public domain
* There may be aspects of the detailed review that underpin the GISP’s that have a local bias

Note that the risks mentioned here and steps to mitigate them are discussed in greater depth in the risk assessments and detailed review that underpin the GISP’s.

For further important information about the benefits and risks of this GISP (together with a legal disclaimer) please review the following link: http//www.etc.

**GISP #20 - MRI Generic Implant Safety Policy (GISP) for Non-Coronary Vascular Stents**

**Brief description (Non-Coronary Vascular Stents):**

* **Are used in angioplasty and stenting procedures involving major arteries in the body.**
* **May be used in multiple – covering a longer range than a single stent alone.**
* **Are usually constructed from non-ferrous or very weakly ferrous metals (e.g. titanium, nitinol, 316L stainless steel).**

**What the policy covers:**

Commercial non-coronary vascular stents, where the specific make and model of the implant is not available. Specific conditions:

* Valid for any non-coronary vascular stent that has been implanted - inserted correctly and functioning as intended.
* Valid for MR scanning if the implant has been in place at least 6 weeks post surgery. If scanning is required within this timescale then a standard MRI safety assessment should be sought (where make/model details may be ascertained).
* Valid for scanning at 1.5 and 3T in the normal mode of operation, provided that a short delay of around 20 seconds is implemented between consecutive pulse sequences to avoid ‘sequence stacking’, and a single sequence should not exceed 15 minutes duration.

**What this policy does not cover, including notable exceptions:**

* **Not valid for implants that are inserted incorrectly, or functioning incorrectly.**
* **Not valid for any MRI protocol that involves scanning above the normal mode of operation.**
* **Not valid for any MRI protocol where consecutive pulse sequences (‘sequence stacking’) are applied without a short time delay** of around 20 seconds **between them, or where a single sequence exceeds 15 minutes duration.**
* **Not valid for implants where MR scanning is required less than 6 weeks post surgery.**
* **Not valid for other non-vascular stent types such as biliary, pancreatic, oesophageal, bronchial, and ureteric stents.**

**Important supporting documentation:**

* **Detailed scientific review.**
* **Risk assessment.**

**Advice summary:**

No known contraindication to MRI at 1.5 or 3T provided that the following applies:

* The non coronary vascular stent is implanted correctly and functioning as intended.
* The stent has been in place at least 6 weeks post-surgery.
* The MRI protocol is applied in the normal mode of operation with a short time delay of around 20 seconds between successive pulse sequences.

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