

1. PURPOSE

Safe working procedures to be followed in the event of breakages or spillages within an MRI department, for example: MRI phantoms or gadolinium-based contrast agents (GBCAs)

2. RESPONSIBILITY

An MR-trained Radiographer or Healthcare support worker is responsible for carrying out this procedure. Pregnant staff must not be allowed to clean up chemical spillages.

3. LOCATION OF COPIES

NHS GG&C Q-Pulse
MRI Physics website

4. HEALTH and SAFETY

Please refer to your local Policy and Procedure for Health and Safety

Appropriate PPE (apron, gloves, face mask and glasses, as required) must be worn when dealing with spillages and breakages and when using spill kits

5. PHANTOMS LEAKING AND/OR BROKEN

If a phantom is found to be leaking or broken it must be placed in a blue chemical waste disposal bag and any chemical spillages cleaned up as detailed below

6. CHEMICAL SPILLAGE

- Before cleaning-up spillages additional protective clothing should be worn (gloves, apron & face mask)
- If a chemical spillage kit is available to the MRI department, follow the instructions in the spill kit
- If no chemical spillage kit is available, use the disposable cleaning equipment you have in the department for standard spillages such as disposable mop heads, single-use cloths and paper towels
- Chemicals must be disposed through the clinical waste stream

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