
Audit 8

1) Audit Title

What percentage of non-ionising imaging studies (MR/ultrasound) are consistent with referral guidelines

2) Standard against which the audit topic is to be compared

Clinical referrers should be familiar with and use the referral guidelines, with or without a decision support system (eg. ESR iGuide) to avoid inappropriate or incorrect investigation (radiation exposure). The BSSD and the justification process applies to practices involving ionising radiation. It is important that all imaging studies, ionising and non-ionising (MR, ultrasound) are undertaken according to (local /national) referral guidelines. This template applies to authorisation of non-ionising studies, but can readily be applied or adapted to justification of ionising studies

3) Source of standard

Local /national referral guidelines (e. g. for ultrasound /MRI)

4) Type of audit – clinical, requesting

5) Target / compliance percentage to be achieved

100 % (compulsory) is the aspirational standard, this audit involves non-ionising investigations, e. g. MR /US and as such is included in the clinical practice section but can readily be extended to ionising investigations (justification)

6) Item or variable to be audited

All or selected non-ionising (or ionising) radiological procedures

7) Method

Retrospective or prospective

8) Data or information to be collected

- ★ Presence of a clinical question/diagnosis on the request form
- ★ Request meets agreed referral guidelines

9) Sample details (number of patients, collection time period)

100 reports

10) Target achieved

(yes /no)

11) Actions to be taken if the target is not met

Education of clinical referrers around referral (and justification) processes

12) Timing for re-audit (yes / no / not applicable)

1 year