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## Audit 19

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**1) Audit Title**

**Impact of Departmental CT Dose Reducing Protocol on Image Quality and Diagnostic Confidence.**

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

A wide variety of CT procedures/protocols can be included – amendment of existing CT scanning protocol and the effect on image quality and diagnostic confidence are to be assessed.

**3) Source of standard (or reference document)**

The source of standards would be published literature and guidances at local, national and international level.

**4) Type of audit – clinical audit, BSSD related (optimisation), reporting****5) Target / compliance percentage to be achieved**

Improving or maintaining the diagnostic yield of CT across a range of procedures whilst introducing new/dose reducing protocols (e.g., lower dose protocols lung, orbits etc).

**6) Item or variable to be audited**

Image quality and diagnostic confidence as affected by new, lower dose CT protocols, a wide spectrum of CT techniques evaluated. Alternatively, the effect of differing non-dose reducing CT protocols on diagnostic performance could also be assessed.

**7) Method: Retrospective / Prospective / Other**

This audit is best performed prospectively.

**8) Data or information to be collected**

Effect on image quality/diagnostic confidence of introduction of a new CT protocol, close reducing protocols to be prioritised for this audit, but alternative CT protocols without dose reduction could also be considered.

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

To be decided locally, including types of CT procedure included and protocols used.

**10) Target achieved (yes / no / not applicable)**

Image quality/diagnostic confidence maintained/improved by the effect of a new protocol with documented reduction in dose.

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

Protocols will need to be adjusted and dose optimised as appropriate to allow image quality and diagnostic confidence to be maintained.

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

Periodic re-auditing is recommended to ensure image quality/diagnostic quality are maintained in line with new protocols. Newer/upgraded CT protocols may also become available.