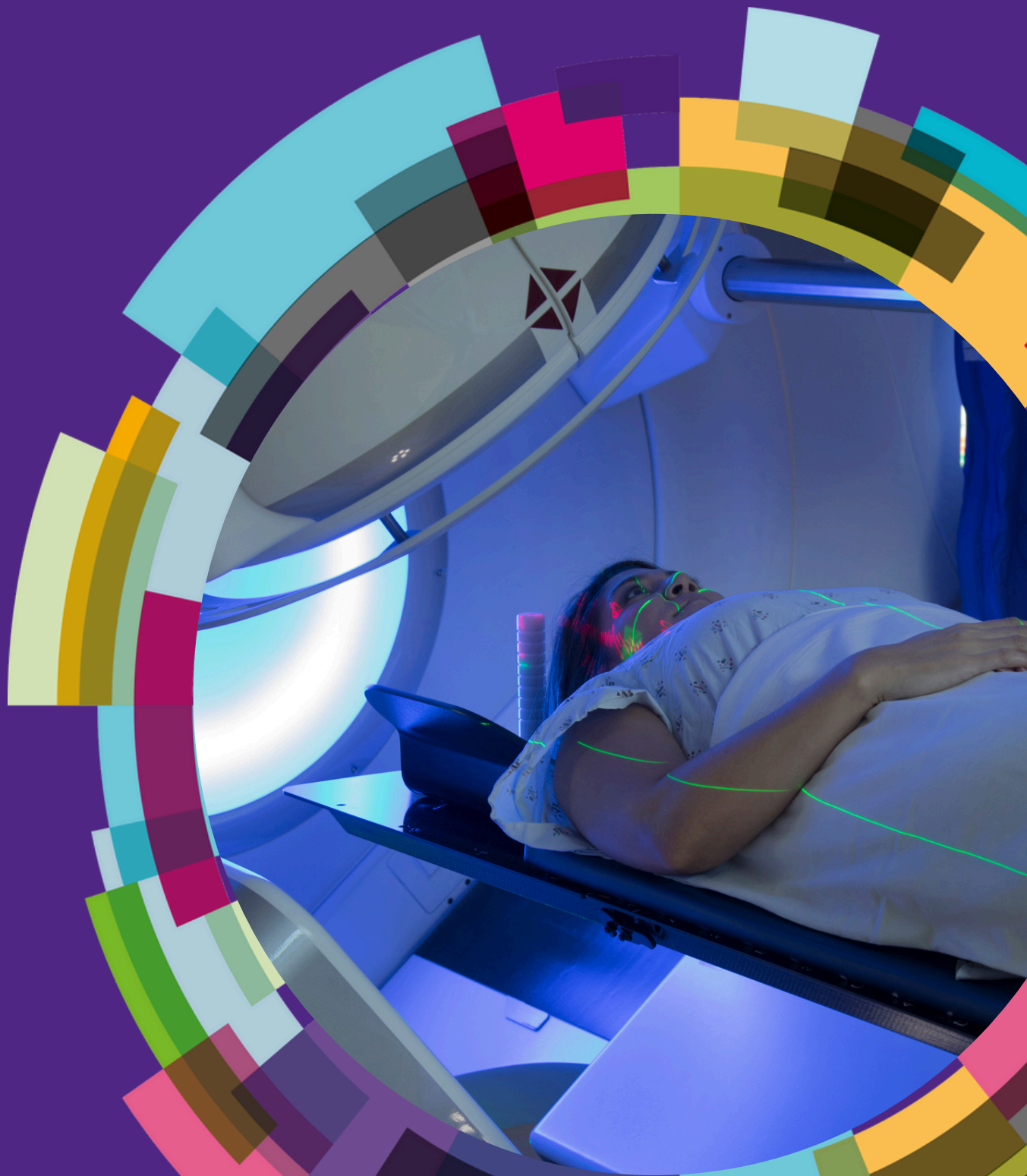




# CHKS Standard: Radiotherapy Services





## Management

**43.4  
New!**

**The service works in accordance with all current national regulatory frameworks.**

### Guidance

In the UK, this includes the new Safety Assessment consent required to carry out specified practices under Regulation 7 of IRR from the Health and Safety Executive.

Evidence could include for example: certificates/photographic evidence, related documentation.

### Reference

Care Quality Commission, [Ionising Radiation \(Medical Exposure\) Regulations \(IR\(ME\)R\)](#)

[Ionising Radiation Regulations 2017](#)

[Ionising Radiation \(Medical Exposure\) Regulations IR\(ME\)R 2017](#)

[Ionising Radiation \(Medical Exposure\) \(Amendment\) Regulations 2018](#)

[Health Service Executive, \[Ionising Radiation\]\(#\)](#)

**43.5  
New!**

**There is an operations policy or service specification for the service.**

### Guidance

The policy would specify the types of modalities and techniques available within the service.

Specific details are also provided where radiotherapy is provided for children. Evidence could include for example: operational policy document or service specification.

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43.6

**There are current procedures and systems in place for accepting referrals into the service for treatment.**

### **Guidance**

This includes routine referrals and emergency referrals. The process for accepting emergencies should include who can make referrals, how referrals are prioritised, the type of referrals accepted as an emergency and general referral criterion, and the treatment modality to be used.

The procedure should specify the medical data required so that the treatment can be justified (IR(ME)R), the diagnosis, histology and clinical findings required in order to put the sequence of events into place prior to the patient attending for their first appointment in the service.

If there is an electronic referral system, the system must have the facility to ensure that only authorised referrers are able to make the referral.

Referrals should be seen within nationally agreed timescales, and these should be included within the procedure.

Evidence could include for example: referral procedures and processes.

### **Reference**

[Ionising Radiation Regulations 2017](#)

[Ionising Radiation \(Medical Exposure\) Regulations IR\(ME\)R 2017](#)

[Ionising Radiation \(Medical Exposure\) \(Amendment\) Regulations 2018](#)

[Ionising Radiation \(Medical Exposure\) Regulations: Implications for Clinical Practice in Radiotherapy. Guidance from the Radiotherapy Board June 2020](#)

[Ionising Radiation Regulations \(Ireland\) 2019](#)[European Union \(Basic Safety](#)

[Standards for Protection Against Dangers arising from Medical Exposure to Ionising Radiation Regulations 2018](#)

[European Union \(Basic Safety Standards for Protection Against Dangers Arising from Medical Exposure to Ionising Radiation\) \(Amendment\) Regulations 2019](#)

[The Ionising Radiations Regulations \(Northern Ireland\) 2018](#)

[NHS, Manual for Cancer Services, April 2011. National Cancer Programme.](#)

<p><b>43.7</b></p>	<p><b>There are systems in place to ensure required clinical checks are undertaken, reports are received, and corrective action taken (if required) prior to starting each course of treatment.</b></p>
<p></p>	<p><b>Guidance</b></p> <p>Such checks may include blood tests, dental, allergy, medication, confirmation of diagnosis, laterality and other diagnostic investigations or specific requirements for clinical trials Corrective actions may include, blood transfusions, parenteral nutrition etc, prior to treatment being commenced.</p> <p>Evidence could include for example: standard operating procedures for bookings, MDT outcomes, audit reports.</p> <p>Reference</p> <p><a href="#"><u>Ionising Radiation (Medical Exposure) Regulations IR(ME)R 2017</u></a>  <a href="#"><u>Ionising Radiation (Medical Exposure) (Amendment) Regulations 2018</u></a>      Ionising Radiation (Medical Exposure) Regulations: Implications for Clinical Practice in Radiotherapy. Guidance from the Radiotherapy Board June 2020  <a href="#"><u>Health Research Authority. May 2022. Clinical Trials of Investigational Medicinal Products (CTIMPS).</u></a></p>
<p><b>43.8</b></p>	<p><b>There are procedures in place for determining the pregnancy status for patients of childbearing age.</b></p>
<p></p>	<p><b>Guidance</b></p> <p>Evidence could include for example: related procedures and checks.</p> <p><b>Reference</b></p> <p><a href="#"><u>Ionising Radiation (Medical Exposure) Regulations IR(ME)R 2017</u></a>  <a href="#"><u>Ionising Radiation (Medical Exposure) (Amendment) Regulations 2018</u></a>      Ionising Radiation (Medical Exposure) Regulations: Implications for Clinical Practice in Radiotherapy. Guidance from the Radiotherapy Board June 2020  <a href="#"><u>The Society and College of Radiographers, 2019. The impact of IR(ME) 2017 IR(ME)R (NI) 2018 on pregnancy checking procedures.</u></a>      The Society and College of Radiographers, Inclusive pregnancy status guidelines for ionising radiation: Diagnostic and therapeutic exposures  <a href="#"><u>The Royal College of Radiologists, 2015 (currently under review). A guide to understanding the implications of the Ionising Radiation (Medical Exposure) Regulations in diagnostic and interventional radiology.</u></a></p>

<p><b>43.9 New!</b></p>	<p><b>Information is prominently displayed alerting pregnant and breast-feeding patients of the dangers of radiation to the foetus or baby.</b></p>
	<p><b>Guidance</b></p> <p>Radiation includes imaging, MRI and radionuclide administration. These signs should be multilingual and/or pictorial and are best situated in reception and waiting areas.</p> <p>Written information should be provided in appointment letters and in information booklets.</p> <p>Evidence could include for example: photographic evidence, information sources.</p> <p><b>Reference</b></p> <p><a href="#">Ionising Radiation (Medical Exposure) Regulations IR(ME)R 2017</a>  <a href="#">Ionising Radiation (Medical Exposure) (Amendment) Regulations 2018</a>      Ionising Radiation (Medical Exposure) Regulations: Implications for Clinical Practice in Radiotherapy. Guidance from the Radiotherapy Board June 2020  <a href="#">The Society and College of Radiographers, 2019. The impact of IR(ME) 2017 IR(ME)R (NI) 2018 on pregnancy checking procedures.</a>      The Society and College of Radiographers, Inclusive pregnancy status guidelines for ionising radiation: Diagnostic and therapeutic exposures</p>
<p><b>43.10</b></p>	<p><b>Risk assessments for radiation exposure to carers and comforters are carried out prior to treatment delivery.</b></p>
	<p><b>Guidance</b></p> <p>Carers and comforters should be made aware of the risks and benefits of being present during a radiation exposure and that their participation is offered both knowingly and willingly. Dose control methods should be implemented, for example, the provision of personal protective equipment.</p> <p>Evidence could include for example: evidence of risk assessment, related incident reports, minutes of meetings and action plans.</p> <p><b>Reference</b></p> <p><a href="#">World Health Organisation, 2016. Communicating radiation risks in paediatric imaging.</a>  <a href="#">UK Gov, 2011. Medical X-ray: Radiation risks by age and sex of patients.</a>  <a href="#">Ionising Radiation (Medical Exposure) Regulations IR(ME)R 2017</a>  <a href="#">Ionising Radiation (Medical Exposure) (Amendment) Regulations 2018</a></p>

Ionising Radiation (Medical Exposure) Regulations: Implications for Clinical Practice in Radiotherapy. Guidance from the Radiotherapy Board June 2020  
[Ionising Radiation Regulations \(Ireland\) 2019](#)  
[European Union \(Basic Safety Standards for Protection Against Dangers arising from Medical Exposure to Ionising Radiation Regulations 2018](#)  
[European Union \(Basic Safety Standards for Protection Against Dangers Arising from Medical Exposure to Ionising Radiation\) \(Amendment\) Regulations 2019](#)  
[The Ionising Radiations Regulations \(Northern Ireland\) 2018](#)

**43.11**  
**New!**



**Locked content**

**43.12**



**Locked content**

**Read The Full Standard**



**Contact our CHKS Accreditation team to receive the full standard document and to discuss your Radiotherapy Department's quality improvement goals.**

**Read Full Standard**

Standard 43: Radiotherapy Service

