GEN74 Assure the effective functioning of radiographic image processing equipment

OVERVIEW

This standard covers your role in relation to processing radiographic images, post-processing activities and quality assurance in relation to processing equipment and procedures. It covers the monitoring and maintenance work required for quality assurance within an imaging department, though it does not include actual repairs to equipment. This standard is designed to be applicable in all settings where permanent images are produced.

Users of this standard will need to ensure that practice reflects up to date information and policies.

Version No 1

KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING

You will need to know and understand:

1. The current European and National legislation, national guidelines, organisational policies and protocols in accordance with Clinical/Corporate Governance which affect your work practice in relation to assuring the effective functioning of radiographic image processing equipment
2. your responsibilities and accountability in relation to the current European and National legislation, national guidelines and local policies and protocols and Clinical/Corporate Governance
3. the duty to report any acts or omissions in care that could be detrimental to yourself, other individuals or your employer
4. the importance of regularly monitoring the quality of radiographic processing equipment and procedures
5. how to prepare and handle quality assurance equipment and materials
6. optimum frequencies at which monitoring should take place
7. methods of monitoring quality and reliability and the appropriateness of these to different equipment and procedures
8. how to recognise significant deviations from specified standards
9. how to monitor and maintain radiographic image processing equipment and why it is important to regularly replenish and replace supplies
10. how to monitor and replenish digital memory
11. how to clean and maintain radiographic image processing equipment and why it is important to do so on a regular basis
12. safe and effective digital cleansing
13. the type and amount of information which should be collected and recorded

PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

You must be able to do the following:

1. monitor and maintain the functioning of radiographic image processing equipment within your area of responsibility regularly against specified processing standards
2. prepare use and handle monitoring equipment and materials correctly and safely
3. obtain sufficient information too allow the quality and reliability of equipment and procedures to be accurately assessed
4. record the results of monitoring accurately, legibly and completely
5. promptly investigate where monitoring reveals actual or potential defects in equipment, and report the results to the appropriate person
6. regularly monitor the condition of processing equipment and environments to confirm that they meet the specified standards and report any problems to the appropriate person
7. regularly monitor and replenish digital memory
8. carry out digital cleansing as required
9. store monitoring records correctly and make them available to those who need them

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

This National Occupational Standard was developed by Skills for Health.

This standard links with the following dimension within the NHS Knowledge and Skills Framework (October 2004):

Dimension: EF1 Systems, vehicles and equipment

This standard has replaced AHP11.