

## NATIONAL RADIATION PROTECTION OFFICE UPDATE 16<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2021



### RADIATION SAFETY INCIDENTS REPORTED ON THE NATIONAL INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (NIMS) Q3 2021

This report details all radiation safety incidents reported on the NIMS from July to September 2021. The figures listed below do not include incidents related to ultrasound, MRI or issues with peripheral vascular catheters.

The disruption from the cyber-attack continued to affect NIMS data reported during this period.

#### 1. Category of radiation safety incident

Category of incident	Radiology	Radiotherapy
Actual incidents	114	
Near miss events	62	8
Total number of reports	<b>176</b>	<b>8</b>

#### 2. Category of person affected by the radiation safety incident

Category of person	Radiology	Radiotherapy
Adult patient / service user	165	8
New born patient	1	
Staff member	10	

#### 3. Details of the process involved in the incidents.

Radiology incidents reported on the NIMS in Q3 2021						
Process	Severity Rating					Total
	Extreme	Major	Moderate	Minor	Negligible	
Checking patient identification					21	<b>21</b>
Clinical details on referral					44	<b>44</b>
Documentation / records					30	<b>30</b>
Communication / consent issues					10	<b>10</b>
Equipment failure			1		26	<b>27</b>
Performing procedure				1	32	<b>33</b>
Pregnancy status					1	<b>1</b>
Not applicable					10	<b>10</b>

The 10 reports categorised as *not applicable* refer to staff exposures.

Radiotherapy incidents reported on the NIMS in Q3 2021						
Process	Severity Rating					Total
	Extreme	Major	Moderate	Minor	Negligible	
Equipment failure					2	
Performing procedure					6	

#### 4. The problems recorded in the radiation safety incidents reported in Q3 2021

Radiology incidents reported on the NIMS in Q3 2021						
Problem	Severity Rating					Total
	Extreme	Major	Moderate	Minor	Negligible	
Diagnostic exposure greater than intended					15	15
General exposure related issue					11	11
Failure / malfunction of process			1		28	29
Wrong body part / side /site				1	30	31
Total dose or volume variation >20% prescribed dose					1	1
Inadvertent dose to foetus (<1mSv)					1	1
Wrong patient (>1mSv)					4	4
Wrong patient (<1mSv)					16	16
Wrong process / treatment / procedure					13	13
Other / unknown					55	55

The 55 reports categorised as *other / unknown* refer to incidents which involved administrative errors, incorrect or absent clinical information on the referral and patient identification issues.

Radiotherapy incidents reported on the NIMS in Q3 2021						
Problem	Severity Rating					Total
	Extreme	Major	Moderate	Minor	Negligible	
Failure / malfunction in equipment					5	5
Wrong treatment / process /procedure					1	1
Total dose or volume variation >20% wrt total prescribed dose					1	1
Other					1	1

The one report categorised as *other* refer to an error in the treatment set-up process.