

Ref. No: 0228
Date: 31/08/23
Subject: Radiation Protection Supervisor

REQUEST

Please could you confirm, what is the job role of your Radiation Protection Supervisor (RPS) in your Trust?

Do you have a separate RPS for your Operating Theatres? If so, what is their job role besides being the RPS?

RESPONSE

The Radiation Protection Supervisors have the responsibility to ensure that they:

- Know and understand the requirements of the regulations and local rules relevant to the work with ionising radiation.
- Command sufficient authority from the people doing the work to allow them to supervise the radiation protection aspects of that work.
- Understand the necessary precautions to be taken and the extent to which they will restrict exposures.
- Be given sufficient time and resources to carry out their functions;
- Know what to do in an emergency.

Depending on the nature of the practice, the tasks of the RPS may include the following:

- Supervising implementation of the programme for workplace monitoring.
- Maintaining adequate records of all radiation sources.
- Carrying out periodic assessments of the condition of the relevant safety and warning systems.
- Supervising implementation of the personal monitoring programme.
- Supervising implementation of the health surveillance programme.
- Providing new workers with an appropriate introduction to local rules and procedures.
- Giving advice and comments on work plans.
- Establishing work plans.
- Providing reports to the local management.

- Participating in the arrangements for prevention, preparedness and response for emergency exposure situations.
- Providing information and training for exposed workers.
- Liaising with the RPA.

In addition, the RPS should:

- Ensure that standard operating protocols are written and reviewed every two years for every type of standard radiological practice for each item of radiation equipment and that these protocols are available to all operators who use that equipment via the EQMS system.
- Ensure that a process is in place to ensure that quality assurance programs are established for the employers procedures.
- Ensure that Diagnostic Reference Levels (DRLs) are in place for all examinations, these must be regularly reviewed and available to the operator.
- Ensure that information contained in radiation equipment maintenance or QA reports relating to the dose delivered in a medical exposure is made available to operators using that equipment.
- Ensure that the RPA is consulted whenever there is a change to working practice, new IR applications and for new or modifications to existing accommodation where IR work is performed.
- Establish arrangements for the appropriate exchange of information with other employers when their employees carry out radiation work on the Trust premises.

We have separate RPS' for operating theatres:

- Lead Radiographer for mobile imaging and theatres