

IRR17 UPDATE

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Eye dose limit reduced from 150 mSv to 20 mSv per annum

No specific reference to abdomen of women of reproductive capacity

Notification/Registration/Consent

Analysis, recording and future prevention of significant event
– eg radiation accidents. Auditing.

Requirement to estimate radiation dose to members of the public

Handover form

Radiation employer term replaced with employer



- The 3-tier notification/registration/consent system commenced January 1st 2018. This applies to ALL veterinary practices and REGISTRATION applies. Consent must additionally be obtained for any practice using an open source (equine Tc⁹⁹ scintigraphy; feline I¹³¹ therapy) or use of a linear accelerator.

<http://www.hse.gov.uk/radiation/ionising/notification-process.htm>

- The reduction in eye dose will affect anyone in an unshielded position within a controlled area. This may not include very rare instances of manual restraint but will apply to use of fluoroscopy & equine radiography/scintigraphy where any person is not in a shielded position and may be subject to significant scatter exposure to the head.
- It can be argued that events should be documented already – there is just a more formal requirement to fully record any incident and assess remedial action/preventative measures.
- The risk assessment should include estimates of radiation dose to members of the public. In most cases this will be zero. Dose records of owners or representatives assisting in restraint of a horse for radiography should indicate any likely exposure (should approach zero).
- The handover form applies to any person entering a controlled area and causing ionizing radiation to be emitted (eg service engineer/RPA).