
Member Newsletter



Firstly, thank you for a warm welcome, having now been in my role for 5 months I am finding my feet. I have spent the first few months visiting members, getting to grips with the day to day running of the association, and getting a better idea of what I can bring to the association to ensure we continue to improve the standards within the industry and raise our profile.

Welcome to the first AXREM newsletter, the hope is that any non-urgent news and information will be collated and sent to members approximately bi-monthly initially in this format.

I hope that you find this useful, I am always open to suggestions. If I am yet to meet you, please do keep in mind that I am happy to make member visits so please do feel free to email me sally.edgington@axrem.org.uk

Enjoy the summer! Sally Edgington (AXREM Director)

COCIR Medical Imaging Equipment Age Profile & Density - 2019 Edition

Despite COCIR raising concerns over the deterioration in the age of the installed base of medical imaging equipment in Europe, approximately one-fifth of such equipment is now more than ten years old and therefore challenging to maintain and repair and inadequate for conducting some procedures. Their replacement is essential. This is the main finding of the 2019 edition of the COCIR Medical Imaging Equipment Age Profile and Density.

To read the publication see here:

https://www.cocir.org/fileadmin/Publications_2019/19076_COC_AGE_PROFILE_web.pdf

Dental radiographic X-ray imaging: dose to patients

This report reviews data on patient doses and equipment trends in dental X-ray imaging procedures between 2014 and 2017.

Public Health England released this report on 18th July 2.

To find out more please see: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/dental-radiographic-x-ray-imaging-dose-to-patients?utm_source=973ce50a-b709-428b-92a4-e55f483a93f5&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_content=immediate

Technology could reduce harm from poor radiology follow-ups

This report demonstrates where technology could play a pivotal role in reducing harm caused by failures in communication or follow-up of unexpected significant radiological findings.

To read the investigation and findings: <https://www.hsib.org.uk/investigations-cases/communication-and-follow-unexpected-significant-radiological-findings/>

CQC inspections of specialist paediatric radiology services

CQC has published a report bringing together the findings from its inspection programme for specialist paediatric radiology services in 12 NHS children's hospitals in England.

The inspections, between April 2017 and March 2019, assessed compliance with the Ionising Radiation (Medical Exposure) Regulations (IR(ME)R). Medical ionising radiation is fundamental to help diagnose and treat conditions. The regulations aim to make sure that it is used safely and to protect patients from the risk of harm. They also require providers to pay particular attention to medical exposures of children.

As well as paediatric radiology services, the inspections also included the wider services for adults where we had trust wide concerns, or where children's and adult services were not distinct.

To read more and see the full report: <https://www.cqc.org.uk/news/stories/cqc-irmer-inspections-specialist-paediatric-radiology-services>

New guidelines should benefit stroke patients

An NHS workforce and resource impact statement highlights the work being done to make changes recommended by NICE in its updated stroke guideline part of routine NHS patient care.

I have noted the following relevant to AXREM members in this report:

The potential increased costs of additional MRI requests for patients suspected of having a 'mini-stroke' – a transient ischaemic attack (TIA) - will be offset by savings gained through no longer routinely offering CT brain scanning to everyone with a suspected TIA. The net impact of these recommendations is estimated to be a cost saving of around £800,000 in year 5.

To find out more: <https://www.nice.org.uk/news/article/health-organisations-working-to-incorporate-nice-recommendations-into-nhs-care-to-benefit-thousands-of-patients-who-have-had-a-stroke>

Early MS scans 'can predict long-term prognosis'

Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) scans are already a key part of the diagnosis and management of MS.

But a 15-year study of people with clinically isolated syndrome (CIS), who can go on to develop MS, suggests they can also predict future disability. The MS Society said more information would help patients' treatment choices.

To read more: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-49087253>

Diagnostic Imaging Dataset for March 2019

NHS England published the Diagnostic Imaging Dataset for the 12 month period up to March 2019. Data includes breakdowns of NHS imaging activity undertaken in England, as well estimates of GP usage of direct access to key diagnostic tests for cancer such as chest imaging and Brain MRI.

The dataset is available here: <https://www.england.nhs.uk/statistics/2019/07/18/diagnostic-imaging-dataset-for-march-2019/>

Ultrasound-Assisted Optical Imaging Could Replace Endoscopy

A new study suggests that ultrasound could be used to optically image internal organs, potentially eliminating the need for invasive visual exams using endoscopic cameras.

To read the full story: <https://www.medimaging.net/ultrasound/articles/294778849/ultrasound-assisted-optical-imaging-could-replace-endoscopy.html>

Beatson clinical trial gives 'incurable' cancer patients hope

A clinical trial involving the Beatson in Glasgow is bringing hope to cancer patients who would previously have been considered incurable.

Doctors say the trial suggests high-precision radiotherapy can double how long a patient can live without cancer.

A total of 99 patients from the UK, Canada, Australia and the Netherlands took part in the trial's second phase.

To read the full story: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-glasgow-west-49076433>

Men with prostate cancer offered hope by 'search and destroy' treatment

A game-changing “search and destroy” treatment could offer new hope to thousands of men with incurable prostate cancer.

The first two UK patients were treated last weekend, after research found that it could significantly extend survival for those with no other treatment options. The method is based on imaging techniques which light up tumours, in order to plan future treatment. The new technique

simultaneously delivers a radioactive payload, which experts described as delivering “a bullet instead of a light”.

To read the full story: <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2019/06/02/men-w-prostate-cancer-offered-hope-by-search-destroy-treatment/>

Breast cancer screening review announced as demand grows

A fundamental review of the Scottish Breast Screening Programme has been announced in the wake of growing demand for the service.

The review will assess the current programme, including the pressures it faces, and is expected to last a year.

Public Health Minister Joe Fitzpatrick said the programme, first introduced in 1988, needed to adapt to meet demand.

To read the full story: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-49165070>

AXREM dates for your diary:

Ultrasound SFG Meeting

Wednesday 4th September 10.30am, Rotherwick House in London

Service Managers SFG Meeting

Wednesday 18th September 10.30am, Rotherwick House in London

AXREM Executive Committee Meeting

Thursday 26th September 10.30am, Rotherwick House in London

AXREM Supply Chain Collaboration Meeting

Wednesday 9th October 10.30am, London TBC

All Members Marketing Meeting

Thursday 7th November 10.30am, Rotherwick House in London

PACS RIS SFG Meeting

Tuesday 12th November 10.30am, Rotherwick House in London

To book a place for any of the above meetings please email sally.edgington@axrem.org.uk

Industry Events (these events are not endorsed or supported by AXREM)

BMUS Ultrasound 2019 – December 10th – 12th, Harrogate Convention Centre

Digital Health Rewired 2020 – March 3rd – 4th, Olympia London

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