Diagnostic Radiology Referral

Have you “Paused & Checked”? An IR(ME)R Referrers checklist for referring a patient for a diagnostic imaging examination

| P | Patient | Ensure correct patient (3-point ID)  
Ensure it is physically possible for the patient to undergo the examination  
(e.g. any mobility issues)  
Ensure patient has been given adequate information and understands and agrees to examination |
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Anatomy</td>
<td>Ensure correct body part/laterality specified</td>
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| U | User Checks | Confirm most appropriate investigation and consider non ionising radiation alternative  
(use of iRefer/local referral guidelines)  
Check previous investigations  
Confirm timing of examination (is date required clear?)  
Ensure pregnancy/breastfeeding status is verified  
Ensure any special needs/interpreter/disabilities/mobility documented  
(eg hoist required?)  
Ensure implantable cardiac defibrillator devices documented  
Ensure allergies documented and appropriate pathology results are available where requested |
| S | System & Settings | Confirm correct examination (code) requested  
Confirm correct imaging modality selection  
Confirm relevant clinical information is adequate to enable the Practitioner to justify the examination  
Confirm relevant clinical information will assist in the evaluation of the study |
| E | End | Confirm entitled Referrer against IR(ME)R procedures – eg unique identifier/correct user login  
Final check that this is the CORRECT patient  
Confirm the above and submit request |
| D | Draw to a Close | Ensure you have received an evaluation of the examination  
Ensure the results are discussed with the patient  
Confirm whether further investigation is required |

IR(ME)R requires all duty holders to comply with their local employer’s procedures. This ‘pause and check’ poster does not replace these procedures but represents a shortened summary of the main checks. You must adhere to your local procedures at all times.