



EXPOSURES AND NON-MEDICAL IMAGING INVOLVING IONISING RADIATION: CHANGES IN NORTHERN IRELAND FROM FEBRUARY 2018

From 6 February 2018 any organisation that uses ionising radiation for exposures or non-medical imaging using medical radiological equipment in Northern Ireland must ensure that they comply with the requirements of the new Ionising Radiation (Medical Exposure) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2018.

The new regulations came into force on 6 February 2018 and replace The Ionising Radiation (Medical Exposure) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2010, The Medicines (Administration of Radioactive Substances) Regulations 1978 and the Medicines (Radioactive Substances) Order 1978.

It is expected that non statutory guidance, developed by the Department of Health, in conjunction with the devolved administrations will be published shortly.

Reporting of Incidents

Guidance in relation to notification of significant/clinically significant accidental and unintended exposures will also need to be developed to take into account new definitions contained in IR(ME) R (NI) 2018.

In the interim please continue to report all accidental or unintended exposures in line with current practice referring to PM77

(<http://www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/guidance/pm77.htm>) for equipment failures and guidance on investigation and notification of medical exposures much greater than intended (MGTI) for all others.

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/583637/MGTI_guidance_Jan_17.pdf

In the first instance please contact your medical physics expert for advice.