



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
DIRECTORATE: RADIATION CONTROL



CT EXAMINATIONS

**PRE-LICENSING REQUIREMENTS: RADIOLOGIST ONLY AVAILABLE BY
REMOTE DIGITAL CONNECTION**

The applicant must provide the following information in writing and submit the applicable documents:

1. Proof of remote digital connection.
2. Signed contracts between the hospital and radiologist/s concerned.
3. Compliance to paragraphs 1-6 of the attached policy document "*RSSA Policy CT Examinations*" compiled by the Radiological Society of South Africa (RSSA).
4. Protocols compiled as follows:
 - 4.1 Scan protocols for each CT procedure. Exposure parameters must be optimized for each procedure to minimize radiation dose while providing the necessary information. ALARA principle must be applied at all times.
 - 4.2 Procedures / actions to minimize radiation dose to children and young adults.
 - 4.3 Rules for requesting CT examinations:
 - Medical Specialists may request CT examinations.
 - General Practitioners working in an Emergency Room environment are restricted to requesting CT examinations in cases with acute trauma (head, spinal and body), acute CVA, Brain scans and CTPE studies for acute pulmonary embolism.
 - General Practitioners in hospital/general practice restricted to requesting CT scans of the brain and limited CT scans of the paranasal sinuses.

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RSSA Policy – CT Examinations

1. A radiologist must approve all cross-sectional imaging (both CT and MRI) examinations and determine the appropriate scanning protocols, with regard to clinical indication, appropriateness and patient safety.
2. A radiologist must be available, either in person or by remote digital connection, to view and approve the images at the completion of the examination.
3. The decision to administer contrast media either intravenously or by any other route is the sole responsibility of the radiologist.
4. A prescription for the contrast medium must be completed and either stored in its original form, or scanned in to the Radiology Information System (RIS) or entered directly into the patient's record in the RIS.
5. A medical practitioner, trained in resuscitation, must be present or immediately available in the radiology department, when intravenous contrast media is administered.
6. An appropriately qualified Radiologist must report on all cross-sectional imaging studies, done for diagnostic purposes. All reports must be signed either physically or digitally and stored for at least 7 years.

Version 1.0 – 8 March 2012

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