

## **RADIATION PROTECTION FOR NON-MEDICALLY QUALIFIED REFERRERS (Half day course – held in the morning)**

The course is designed to provide radiation safety training for nurses and other extended-scope health professionals who refer patients for X-rays under the Ionising Radiation (Medical Exposure) Regulations 2017 legislation (commonly known as IR(ME)R). Changes in the health service over recent years have been an increasingly important role being played by nurse practitioners and other health professionals in the evaluation of patients for given conditions. In many departments authority is given for these non-medically qualified health professionals to request X-ray examinations according to agreed protocols. All medical X-ray exposures are governed by the IR(ME)R legislation to protect the patient from doses of ionising radiation and it is important that all referrers are familiar with radiation issues and the implication of their X-ray requests. The Department of Health recommends that referrers are 'suitably trained' and the course follows a syllabus designed to provide appropriate training.

This course is **not** suitable for medical practitioners requiring IR(ME)R training to act as IR(ME)R practitioner or operator.

### **LEARNING OBJECTIVES**

Non-medically qualified health professionals referring patients for x-rays should be able to answer the following to comply with the training requirements for referrers under the Ionising Radiation (Medical Exposures) Regulations 2017.

- Describe the harmful effects of ionising radiation
- Understand the concept of collective dose to the population
- Name the current legislation that governs the use of ionising radiation in healthcare
- List at least 4 items of information that must be included on an x-ray referral form
- Describe how much clinical information should be included on an x-ray referral form
- Describe the process of justification and authorisation of an x-ray request
- Describe the role of the referrer, practitioner and operator in terms of current legislation
- Describe what is meant by a protocol
- Describe what is meant by a 'diagnostic outcome' in terms of current legislation
- Describe the relative radiation doses from a range of common examinations
- Be aware of alternative imaging modalities.

RPC's Radiation Protection for Non-Medically Qualified Referrers Course provides training on all of the above.

If you would like further information about this course please e-mail@ [info@sghrpc.co.uk](mailto:info@sghrpc.co.uk)