

Collaboration with other radiation protection alliances

ESR Office
Contact: info@eurosafeimaging.org

Be part of the European Society of Radiology's radiation protection initiative, become a Friend of EuroSafe Imaging. www.eurosafeimaging.org



Alliance for Radiation Safety in Pediatric Imaging - Image Gently Alliance

The Alliance for Radiation Safety in Pediatric Imaging – the Image Gently Alliance – is a coalition of healthcare organisations dedicated to providing safe, high quality paediatric imaging worldwide.

The Image Gently Alliance began as a committee within the Society for Pediatric Radiology (SPR) in late 2006. In 2007, the SPR leadership reached out to its sister societies representing the key members of the imaging team: the American College of Radiology (ACR), American Society of Radiologic Technologists (ASRT) and American Association of Physicists in Medicine (AAPM). At this time, these organisations developed the first social marketing campaign in radiology, the Image Gently campaign.

The primary objective of the Alliance is to raise awareness in the imaging community of the need to adjust radiation doses to appropriate levels when imaging children for justified exams. The ultimate goal of the Alliance is to change practice and achieve the highest quality and safety when imaging children. The Alliance's strategy is straightforward – providing information and free educational materials on radiation protection for children to every member of the care team.

The Alliance chose as its first campaign to focus on computed tomography (CT) scans. The dramatic increase in the number of paediatric CT scans worldwide in the past 20 years and the expanding application, rapid evolution and increasing complexity of CT technology and equipment clearly justified this initial Alliance effort. The campaign has grown to include fluoroscopy, interventional radiology, nuclear medicine, digital radiography and, most recently, imaging in dentistry.

Image Gently has been endorsed by a growing number of professional medical and dental organisations around the world and currently has over 85 members. The Alliance also works collaboratively with companies that manufacture equipment used in radiology through the Medical Imaging Technology Alliance (MITA).



IMAGE WISELY® Radiation Safety in Adult Medical Imaging

Radiation Safety in Adult Medical Imaging - Image Wisely® Program

Image Wisely is a collaborative effort by the American College of Radiology (ACR), the Radiological Society of North America (RSNA), the American Association of Physicists in Medicine (AAPM), and the American Society of Radiologic Technologists (ASRT) with the objective of optimising the amount of radiation used in medically necessary imaging studies and eliminating unnecessary procedures. Many radiology professionals have volunteered their knowledge and expertise to make the Image Wisely initiative possible.

Image Wisely follows on the remarkable success of Image Gently, which, since its launch in 2007, continues to focus attention on safe imaging of paediatric patients. Image Wisely's goals are to ensure that adult patients receive only necessary scans, help medical imaging providers use the optimal radiation dose for each exam and ultimately help providers reduce the radiation dose that Americans receive from imaging.

Image Wisely offers resources and information to radiologists, imaging technologists, medical physicists, other imaging practitioners, and patients. Image Wisely encourages imaging providers to convey the principles of the Image Wisely Program to the imaging team in order to ensure that the facility optimises its use of radiation when imaging patients; communicates optimal patient imaging strategies to referring physicians, ensuring they are available for consultation; and routinely reviews imaging protocols to guarantee the use of the least amount of radiation necessary to acquire a diagnostic quality image for each exam.

Collaboration with EuroSafe Imaging

EuroSafe Imaging, Image Gently and Image Wisely are planning future collaboration. Representatives of all three initiatives held an initial meeting at RSNA 2014, where they agreed to cooperate and combine resources. They will meet again at ECR 2015 to further develop a joint strategy. The strengths of this collaboration would be, among others, the ability to avoid redundancies and to collectively promote each other's flagship projects. They envisage a global umbrella for existing bodies and initiatives to ensure the highest possible awareness and best possible patient safety and quality of care.

References

1. <http://www.imagegently.org>
2. <http://www.imagewisely.org>
3. <http://www.eurosafeimaging.org>