



**Clinical
Radiology**

The Royal College of Radiologists

National Clinical Audit United Kingdom

Dr R Greenhalgh

Chair of Clinical Radiology Audit and
Quality Improvement Committee
(CRAQIC)

Who are we?

- The Royal College of Radiologists (RCR) leads, educates and supports doctors who are training and working in the specialties of clinical oncology and clinical radiology.
- 11000 members worldwide.
- Approx 6000 members in the UK.
- All UK trainees and Consultants are expected to perform Audit/QI annually

CRAQIC

- Carries out an annual programme of planned audit and quality improvement work and advises and represents the RCR and Faculty on matters related to audit and QI.
- 6 appointed members, up to 5 co-opted members and the College Officers
- Meet 4 x year.

CRAQIC National Audits

- Perform up to 4 a year
- Recently published RCR/national standards.
- Reliant on local audit leads.
- Raise awareness of new guidelines/standards.
- Benchmarking
- Repeat



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➤ [Eur Radiol.](#) 2020 Sep;30(9):4713-4723. doi: 10.1007/s00330-020-06845-2. Epub 2020 May 20.

Radiology reporting of osteoporotic vertebral fragility fractures on computed tomography studies: results of a UK national audit

David C Howlett¹, Karl J Drinkwater², Nadia Mahmood¹, Jozsef Illes³, Jill Griffin⁴,
Kassim Javaid⁵

Affiliations + expand

PMID: 32435926 DOI: [10.1007/s00330-020-06845-2](#)



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Clinical Radiology

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Royal College of Radiologists national audit evaluating the provision of imaging in the severely injured patient and compliance with national guidelines

R. Greenhalgh ^a, D.C. Howlett ^b, K.J. Drinkwater ^c  



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A national audit of radiology practice in cancer multidisciplinary team meetings

R. Balasubramaniam  , K. Drinkwater, D.C. Howlett

Audit Live

- A collection of audit templates providing a framework identifying best practice in key stages of the audit cycle, covering over 100 radiology topics.
- Templates submitted by members and fellows
- Reviewed by CRAQIC prior to uploading to RCR website

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The accuracy of transcranial doppler in the assessment of vasospasm in patients with aneurysmal subarachnoid haemorrhage

The accuracy of transcranial doppler in the assessment of vasospasm in patients with aneurysmal subarachnoid haemorrhage

Appropriateness of ultrasound scan requests for paediatric cervical lymphadenopathy

An audit of the appropriateness of ultrasound scan (USS) requests investigating neck lumps/suspected lymph nodes in the paediatric population.

Safety and Outcomes of Cerebrovascular Digital Subtraction Angiography

An audit of the procedural aspects, post-operative complications, and outcomes of cerebrovascular digital subtraction angiography

Are too many neonatal lumbar spine ultrasounds being requested to interrogate ‘?Sacral dimple’?

This audit assesses and reviews the number and quality of lumbar spine ultrasound scans (USS) performed in a department, specifically to investigate...

Interdepartmental Communication in Emergency Radiology: Documentation of Referrer Opinion on A&E Radiographs

An Audit of documentation of the referring clinican’s opinion on A&E radiographs.

Indications for CT imaging in the severely injured patient

An audit to assess the adequacy of clinical information on CT major trauma imaging requests from the Emergency Department (ED).

Information offered to patients after consent for radiological procedures

Are all patients offered a record of their consent for radiological procedures?

Audit of Ultrasound Guided Renal Biopsy

To audit diagnostic adequacy and complications of ultrasound guided renal biopsies.

Justification of contrast enhanced CT urography for investigation of haematuria in adult patients under 40 years old

An audit to assess whether CT urograms using IV contrast, performed to investigate haematuria in patients under 40 years old, were justified with...

Identification and relief of urological obstruction in the setting of Acute Kidney Injury (AKI)

Compliance with NICE guidance 2013 on identifying and relief of urological obstruction in the setting of Acute Kidney Injury

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1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

...

next >

last »

CRAQIC engagement

- Annual Audit Forum
- Annual audit poster competition
- Annual quality improvement poster competition
- Support local audit leads

Quality Standard for Imaging (QSI)

- QSI sets national quality criteria for imaging services.
- Services should evaluate their performance against these standards and make improvements where needed to meet - and continually improve against - the set criteria.
- Aligned to Care Quality Commission Standards.

QSI Criteria



National Emergency Laparotomy Audit (NELA)

Clinical Radiology 72 (2017) 41–51



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Clinical Radiology

journal homepage: www.clinicalradiologyonline.net



The accuracy of interpretation of emergency abdominal CT in adult patients who present with non-traumatic abdominal pain: results of a UK national audit



D.C. Howlett^a, K. Drinkwater^{b,*}, C. Frost^c, A. Higginson^d, C. Ball^d,
G. Maskell^e



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National Emergency Laparotomy Audit

- 2.7 Was an abdominal CT scan performed in the pre- operative period as part of the diagnostic work-up? If performed, how was this CT reported pre-operatively?
(If CT is reported by a registrar and validated by a consultant before surgery, select 'in -house consultant'. If not validated by consultant before surgery, select 'registrar')
- ☒ Yes – reported by in-house consultant
☐ Yes – reported by in-house registrar
☐ Yes – reported by outsourced service
☐ Yes but NOT reported
☐ No CT Performed
☐ Unknown
- a. *(No longer required)*
- b. *(No longer required)*
- c. Was there a discrepancy between the CT report and surgical findings that altered or delayed either the diagnosis or surgical management?
- ☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Unknown



- RCR NELA lead appointed 2020.
- Supports Local NELA Radiology Leads.
- Advises NELA re radiology questions

Summary

- RCR committed to robust audit to improve patient management.
- Programme of national audit through CRAQIC.
- Supports local audit through local audit leads and on line resources.
- Supports national audits working with other Colleges and Societies.