



# QUADRANT

## QuADRANT Main Survey Definitions / Terms in Use

It is important to emphasize that the focus of QuADRANT is **clinical audit** and how this can improve outcomes and experiences for patients. The scope of QuADRANT incorporates clinical audit activity in diagnostic radiology, nuclear medicine and radiotherapy, also including interventional radiology and cardiology where high-dose procedures occur, as is mandated within the European Basic Safety Standards Directive ([Council Directive 2013/59/Euratom](#)). Dose measuring/monitoring and regulatory processes are **not** the focus of the project.

- **Clinical audit** (as defined in the European Basic Safety Standards Directive) – “a systematic examination or review of medical radiological procedures which seeks to improve the quality and outcome of patient care through structured review whereby radiological practices, procedures and results are examined against agreed standards for good medical radiological procedures with modification of practices where indicated and application of new standards if necessary”. Although the definition uses the term “radiological”, clearly the definition is equally applicable to all medical applications involving ionizing radiation, as outlined above.
- **Internal audit** – audit that occurs at a local level (individual, departmental, hospital) on its own initiative and consistent with national requirements.
- **Internal audit with external direction** – a system whereby guidance or direction is provided from an external body, e.g. national professional society, allowing co-ordination of audit potentially across multiple departments/hospitals.
- **External audit** – an external auditing team working across a number of centres/hospitals within a region or country.
- **Inspection** – an investigation carried out by, or for, a competent authority to verify compliance with national legal requirements, including those addressing the need for clinical audit. Clinical audit does not replace inspection.
- **Self-assessment/evaluation** – a step in preparation for internal clinical audit, the process being undertaken by a multi-disciplinary evaluation team consisting of members of the service being audited.

Where the term ‘audit’ is used in the survey, this refers to clinical audit.