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Patient and non-MR personnel screening	Rad.029	1 of 2
Source	Origination Date	Last Revision
Radiology – MRI		
Review Dates	Approved By:	

PURPOSE

To ensure the safety of patients and other non-MR personnel in the MRI department.

APPLICABILITY

- Chandler Regional Medical Center
- Mercy Gilbert Medical Center

POLICY

Non-MR personnel include staff who have not completed designated safety training within the previous 12 months as well as all patients. These persons will be screened to ensure their safety in the MRI department.

PROCEDURE

All non-MR personnel, including patients, must be screened prior to entering Zone III.

All non-MR personnel, including patients, must be accompanied by or under the immediate supervision of and in visual verbal contact with one specifically identified level 2 MR person during their entire stay in Zones III and IV. Level 2 personnel may not relinquish their duty unless they formally transfer that responsibility to another level 2 person.

All patients must be safety screened by a level 2 MR person. Inpatients and emergency department patients will be screened by two different individuals, the second of which must be a level 2 MR person. If the patient is unconscious or otherwise unable to adequately complete the screening process and the examination cannot be postponed until an accurate history can be obtained, the patient may be cleared with radiographic imaging of the head, orbits, chest, ~~and~~ abdomen, and pelvis. Such patients will also be examined for scars and such areas will be radiographed as necessary to exclude foreign bodies. The ordering provider must ~~use the screening form to~~ document in the medical record that he or she has examined the patient, identified any scars, and ordered radiographs of those areas. The technologist will work with the ordering provider to ensure that the appropriate imaging is ordered. The technologist will consult a radiologist for foreign body clearance.

All non-MR personnel, including patients, with a history of orbital trauma by a metallic foreign body for which they sought medical attention will additionally have their orbits screened by radiographs unless the orbits can be cleared based on an existing imaging examination.

If a medical implant or other foreign body is discovered, best efforts should be made to identify the device or object and its MRI safety profile.

Final determination of whether or not to allow entry to Zone III of patients and other non-MR personnel with an implant, foreign body, etc. is to be made by the attending radiologist, the MR medical director, or specifically designated level 2 MR personnel following criteria for acceptability predetermined by the MR medical director.

All non-MR personnel, including patients, must remove all readily removable metallic objects on or in them prior to entering Zone IV. Patients should remove their own clothes and wear hospital gowns without metal fasteners whenever possible.

REFERENCES

ACR Guidance Document for Safe MRI Practices: 2013