



Radiation Protection

for Hospitals



With over 30 years experience providing Radiation Protection Advice, IRS is your one-stop solution to all your radiation protection needs.

With a team of highly qualified, accredited Radiation Protection Advisors, IRS can ensure your compliance with the relevant regulations.

Service specification:

IRS will provide the services of a team of experienced Radiation Protection Advisers (RPAs) that will advise on the implementation and compliance with the Ionising Radiations Regulations 1999 and other relevant legislation. IRS has been recognised as an RPA Body by the Health and Safety Executive (HSE). Advice and assistance by telephone will be available at any time during normal working hours, and out of hours a mobile phone contact number will be available if required. Radiation protection advice will include the following:

- The activities of all the RPAs are co-ordinated in order to ensure consistency in the standard of service provided. Advice is available by telephone at any time during normal working hours.
- The RPAs are provided with such technical assistance as is necessary to enable them to execute their duties.
- The RPA advises in respect of methods of complying with the requirements of the relevant statutory provisions, codes of practice and guidance notes, relevant to radiological protection, in particular:
 - The Ionising Radiations Regulations 1999
 - The Ionising Radiations (Medical Exposure) Regulations 2000
 - The Radioactive Substances Act 1993

IRS ensures that every hospital where work with radiation is undertaken, is visited at least annually by an RPA, in order to review the protection measures laid down in consultation with heads of practices (or appointed deputies).

The scope of the radiation protection advice provided in relation to compliance with IRR 99 includes the following:

- the identification of controlled and supervised areas
- the designation of classified persons
- the interpretation and significance of radiation exposures
- compliance with any special notices served by Health & Safety Executive
- drawing up local rules
- the appointment of Radiation Protection Supervisors
- the training and instruction of Radiation Protection Supervisors, employees and other persons affected by work with ionising radiations
- the prior examination of plans and proposals, including relevant aspects of building design and structure, in relation to new equipment, installations and processes having radiation safety implications together with any subsequent modifications

- the regular calibration of equipment provided for monitoring of levels of ionising radiation and the regular checking that such equipment is serviceable and correctly used.
- the periodic examination and testing of engineering controls, design features, safety features and warning devices and regular checking of systems of work provided to restrict exposure to ionising radiation.
- the assessment of hazards arising from foreseeable incidents and the drawing up of contingency plans and risk assessments where appropriate
- any matters raised by the Health and Safety Executive or by the Environment Agency
- the acceptance of new installations, processes and equipment together with any subsequent modifications having radiation safety implications
- the provision, maintenance and testing of safety features and personal protective clothing
- the extent to which personnel monitoring and environmental survey are required.
- ensuring that equipment used for medical purposes is so designed, constructed, installed, maintained and used so as to be capable of restricting as far as is reasonably practicable, the exposure of patients to that compatible with the clinical purpose or research object in view.

The RPA assists in the investigation of any of the following circumstances:

- when the dose received by an employee is believed to be much greater or less than that recorded on their individual dosimeter
- when any employee records a cumulative total dose during the year which exceeds three-tenths of the annual dose equivalent limits for classified staff
- when it is believed that a patient may have received a much greater dose than intended
- when the results of environmental or individual monitoring indicate unsatisfactory conditions or the possibility that under normal working conditions persons might receive doses in excess of those levels considered reasonable in the circumstances.

Following any of these investigations, the RPA will recommend in writing what measures are to be adopted to rectify the situation.