

# Implementation of a Reporting Radiographer service led by a Consultant Radiographer Graham Kelly

**Summary:** Shrewsbury and Telford Hospitals appointed a Consultant Radiographer who started their position in June 2018. The focus of the Consultant Radiographer was:

- To increase the amount of reporting radiographers
- Increase the amount of reports generated by reporting radiographers
- Ensure robust clinical governance and quality.

**Background and Implementation Structure:** Traditionally the majority of plain film reporting was conducted by Consultant Radiologist within the Trust. However, in line with the RCR report (2019) <sup>[1]</sup> there is a national shortage of radiologist with a reliance on out-sourcing and our Trust was no different. Therefore there is an impetus for radiographer progression.

**Strategy:**

- A retrospective perspective of plain film imaging numbers was conducted to project forward the full time equivalence required to provide a robust plain film reporting service to ultimately be radiographer led in the future.
- **Implementation of Annex 21 to ensure role creation when reporting courses completed.**
- **50% protected training time for trainee reporters with removal of out of hour shifts.**
- Implementation of a peer audit system of 5% per reporter with monthly governance meetings supported by SOPs (Standard Operating Systems) and Radiologist oversight if consensus cannot be sought.
- Utilisation of Health Education England (HEE) grants to support radiographer progression and equipment purchases.
- Implementation of a protected CPD session for current reporters.
- Facilitation of CPD events provided by the reporting team.
- Expansion of reporting protocols to include all skeletal areas and referral sources.
- Expansion in to Chest and Abdomen reporting.

**Results**

- **Increased** reporting session capacity from **4 to 19**
- **Increased** reporting team from **<1 whole time equivalent to >7**
- **181% increase** in exams reported by radiographers
- **22 hours decrease** in report turn around times
- Successful training of **5 radiographers** with **6 month early completion of MSK trainees**
- **98% Reporting Accuracy**

Reported by Radiographers	
Year	Amount
2017	10975
2018	19129
2019	30860

Average Time (Hours) for Exam to Report (excluding Chest and Abdomen)				
Year	GP	A&E RSH	A&E PRH	Average
2017	292	42	39	41
2018	303	33	34	34
2019	189	20	18	19

References

1. RCR. Clinical Radiology UK workforce census report. RCR. 2019. 53 p.