

Radiology Department

Information for Prison Officers escorting Prisoners for CT examinations

The CT scanner uses X-rays and a computer to create images of the patient (inside of the body). Scattering of the X-rays by the patient mean that a person standing within the room will be exposed to ionising radiation. The level of scattered radiation in the room is such that the room is designated as a Controlled Area. This requires entry and working within the area to be strictly controlled and written systems of work are followed.

By accompanying the prisoner for the CT scan, you will receive a dose of radiation, the magnitude of which will be dependent on your positioning during the Prisoners CT scan. It is recommended that you are **not present within the CT room during the scan.**

If you deem that the prisoner needs to be accompanied into the room then you will be provided with a lead apron and thyroid shield to wear to minimise the dose received. An instruction will be provided by the radiographers on the most appropriate position to stand to reduce your exposure.

If the Prisoner is to be chained to the Officer, then only the long chain is to be used. This is to maximise distance between the Officer and the centre of the scanner and also to prevent the chain becoming lodged within the table mechanism.

However you should not help accompany the prisoner if;

- You do not feel happy to accept the risks described above.
- There is any chance that you might be pregnant.



Patient Information

- You have accompanied a patient for a CT scan on more than 30 occasions in the past year.

If any of these apply, please tell the radiographer immediately. **It is ultimately the decision of the Radiographer if the examination takes place.**

In emergency:

Under no circumstances should you approach the patient during the scan. If you need to further restrain the patient, then wait for radiographer to stop scan.

The Trust has access to interpreting and translation services. If you need this information in another language or format please ask and we will do our best to meet your needs.

The Trust operates a smoke free policy.

To give feedback on this leaflet please email feedback@uhcw.nhs.uk

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