How to Keep Up with Ever Changing Technology - What Works Best and What Resources are Available

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Being Proactive

Responsible for keeping up with the world's ever changing technology
What do I need to do my job?
How do I keep up with technology?
Your vendor and what they can offer
Online information
Working with your radiologist and physicist
Knowing your scanner
Very important component to understanding your CT scanner
Can be an overwhelming process if too many people are involved
Time for intense, valuable learning
Small number of technologists to participate

Minimizes confusion

Responsible for training other staff
Applications specialists share checklists and other training materials to help train additional staff.
Allow normal patient schedule to operate on other scanners if possible
Educational connection to your scanner
Contact information for any questions you have regarding this equipment
There is NEVER a dumb question
Your applications specialist is there to help YOU. This is their job. Use these people to your advantage!
Direct line to other product specialist to answer questions
Vendors also offer education to their customers. Often this is FREE!
1. GE-Tips TV-

2. Siemens Medical Academy-
   https://www.learnatsiemens.com/Saba/Web/MEDEXT
3. Phillips-
   http://www.theonlinelearningcenter.com

4. Toshiba-
Often it is included in your purchasing contract

Off site training to their customers through conferences or workshops
Staff have the opportunity to learn in a different environment which can also be a great morale booster.
Learning through their experienced customers in the clinical setting
Online learning
Great tool for staff

Keep up with technology
Surprising how many places to go online for radiology information and continuing education
There are web sites-
xrayrisks.com

"Radiation can be used for great benefit to humanity and with minimal risk, a risk comparable to or lower than those commonly accepted as an ordinary part of daily life such as driving to work."

National Institutes of Health.
Radiation Fact Sheet, April 2000
Image Gently

The Alliance for Radiation Safety in Pediatric Imaging

Let's image gently when we care for kids! The image gently Campaign is an initiative of the Alliance for Radiation Safety in Pediatric Imaging. The campaign goal is to change practice by increasing awareness of the opportunities to lower radiation dose in the imaging of children.

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT FEATURES IMAGE GENTLY!

Mother and Child Radiation Concerns.wmv

IMPROVED CARE?

ALTERNATIVES?

ACCREDITED?

"CHILD-SIZED" DOSE?
There are online journals-
ASRT-American Society of Radiologic Technologists

ARRT-American Registry of Radiologic Technologists

ACR-American College of Radiology

RSNA-Radiologic Society of North America

And many others!
Some Radiologists Offer Information
Image Gently

Open to the general public, members of industry, scientists, policy makers...the Beebe Symposium: Tracking Radiation Exposure from Medical Diagnostic Procedures, upcoming meeting

Beebe Symposium: Tracking Radiation Exposure from Medical Diagnostic Procedures: Division on Earth and Space Science, September 22 at 12:37pm

Like · Comment · Share · September 22 at 12:37pm

Write a comment...

How does your CT dose measure up?

DIR Registry
ndr.acr.org

The Dose Index Registry (DIR) is a data registry that allows facilities to compare their CT dose indices to regional and national values. Information related to dose indices for all CT exams is collected, anonymized, transmitted to the ACR.
Communications Book
method to share information
protocol changes
or helpful hints
Fun Fact of the Week
**FUN FACT EXAMPLES**

Runoffs must be < 40 secs!

Lowest dose you have used this week? How? Please share!

Lowest cardiac pitch (retrospective) = 0.17. Highest cardiac pitch (flash) = 3.4.

Remember our weight limit—650 lbs!

Use Visipaque on ALL diabetic ♥ scans

No Calcium Scoring on men < 35 and women < 40. There is little ♥ dz in this population!
RADIOLOGISTS and TECHNOLOGISTS should work together to provide excellent LOW dose imaging.
Consult your radiologists on protocols and changes

Inviting a radiologist to your staff meetings

Great method to learn and develop relationships
Consult your Medical Physicist

What is the DLP?

Provides staff with lectures

Answers technical questions and talk to patients with questions

Makes radiation physics FUN
Scanning phantoms

Better acquainted with your scanner

Can never know too much
Be **proactive** in your search for information. With ever changing technology, CT sometimes feels like a huge science experiment!
CT is ever evolving
It is your responsibility to keep up with the ever changing developments in our field.
The fun with dose reduction has just begun! Hang On!
Questions???