



19 July 2021

ISRRT Draft Position statement on clinical audit

The Australian Society of Medical Imaging and Radiation Therapy (ASMIRT) is the peak body representing medical radiation practitioners in Australia. Our aims are to promote, encourage, cultivate and maintain the highest principles of practice and proficiency of medical radiation science, always mindful that the welfare of the patient should be at the centre of everything we do.

ASMIRT would like to provide the following comments to this document.

- ASMIRT suggests that a brief summary of the rationale (purpose and intent) for the document would be helpful, to provide the context for the document.
- At times this document is difficult to understand, potentially as intentions from the author may have been 'lost in translation.' A clear statement of the position of the ISRRT on clinical audits would assist the reader.
- ASMIRT understand that Clinical audit in radiology is a legal requirement in Europe under the European Directive (and has been since 1997). Has this document been written as an incentive to encourage radiographers to lead audit? If so, the process will require support from management as this process will take time. ASMIRT suggest perhaps a webpage with links to useful resources would be beneficial from a practical point of view.
- ASMIRT recommends that this document is revised and an adjunct guide on how to undertake clinical audit is developed. This adjunct document should include resources on where to get help and ideas from.
- The document would benefit from the insertion of page numbers and consistent referencing ie Harvard or Vancouver.
- On the first page last paragraph "*Research is about generating hypotheses and verifying scientifically a predicted but not necessarily proven relationship between or among variables such as clinical processes and outcomes.*" This statement only refers to quantitative research and does not provide reference to the growing body of qualitative research in MRS. ASMIRT would suggest that this be reviewed to include quantitative, qualitative and mixed methods research.
- On the fourth page under example of clinical audit (b) *United Kingdom PGMI (perfect, good, moderate, inadequate) method of evaluation of clinical image quality in mammography [ref].* Research by Dr K. Spuur demonstrates that this may not be the most appropriate guideline for this purpose. The author may wish to provide further evidence-based material to support the use of this methodology.

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