
Radiation Safety Information on the Web



Information on the web about radiation safety has been reviewed in a recent article in the Journal of the American College of Radiology. While there is increasing awareness and need for information about low-level radiation and potential risks and many medical and scientific organisations provide resources, to date there has been no single resource compiling this information.

The authors reviewed 29 websites, including those of national and international medical organisations, for information on radiation dose, risk, justification, optimisation, guidelines (including general information about improvement in quality and dose reduction without specific mention of optimisation techniques), appropriateness criteria, and general principles of radiation safety for CT, fluoroscopy or angiography, and radiography. They found that less information is available about medical radiation safety in children compared with adults. The most information is available on CT, then fluoroscopy, and finally radiography. Across all groups and modalities, there is no information available for patients or parents on optimisation, appropriateness, or guidelines, with the exception of adult radiography, for which there are some guidelines.

Reference: Minhas AS, Frush DP. Compendium of Resources for Radiation Safety in Medical Imaging Using Ionizing Radiation Journal of the American College of Radiology, Available online 28 March 2013 <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.jacr.2012.10.005>

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