

Freedom of Information Office  
Press and Communications  
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20 December 2012

Our ref: FOI-420-2012

Jon Griffin  
[request-140514-7dc83658@whatdotheyknow.com](mailto:request-140514-7dc83658@whatdotheyknow.com)

Dear Jon

**Information request:**

*The following questions concern patients undergoing radiological investigations or procedures involving iodinated contrast media (this would involve the departments of radiology, vascular, MAU and renal):*

- 1. Does your institution have specific guidelines/policy for the recognition and management of patients at risk of contrast induced acute kidney injury (CI-AKI) for the following procedures:
  - a. contrast enhanced CT scans*
  - b. angiogram, angioplasty and stenting*
  - c. endovascular aneurysm repair (EVAR)**
- 2. If available please send the guidelines/policy by email.*
- 3. When was this guideline last reviewed and/or revised?*
- 4. What strategies does your institution use to manage patients at risk of CI-AKI?*
- 5. Do you routinely involve a renal physician in the pre and post procedure management of patients at risk of CI-AKI who are having a contrast enhanced investigation or interventional procedure?*
- 6. Do patients at risk of CI-AKI routinely have post procedure serum urea, creatinine, eGFR and electrolytes measured? If so, at what time post procedure does this happen?*

Thank you for your information request dated 30 November 2012 received on the same day.

I have carefully reviewed your request and investigated whether there is any information disclosable to you. Please find below the information the Trust holds, which I am pleased to provide to you:

**INFORMATION TO BE RELEASED**

- 1. Does your institution have specific guidelines/policy for the recognition and management of patients at risk of contrast induced acute kidney injury (CI-AKI) for the following procedures:*

- a. contrast enhanced CT scans*

Yes

*b. angiogram, angioplasty and stenting*

Yes

*c. endovascular aneurysm repair (EVAR)*

Yes

*2. If available please send the guidelines/policy by email.*

Please find attached the Trust's guideline which is the standard operating procedure when requesting studies involving contrast.

*3. When was this guideline last reviewed and/or revised?*

The Trust's current guidelines came into force November 2010 and are due for review in November 2014.

*4. What strategies does your institution use to manage patients at risk of CI-AKI?*

Cardiology patients at high risk of contrast induced nephropathy undergo a contrast limiting study. This was developed in collaboration with the Trust's renal department and has been published in a high impact renal journal to highlight how contrast can be administered safely. [Kumar et al *cJASN* 2009] (attached)

All requests involving contrast require clinical knowledge of the renal function at the time of the request to allow a procedure to be booked. This highlights at risk patients and prompts the use of the Trusts attached guidelines.

*5. Do you routinely involve a renal physician in the pre and post procedure management of patients at risk of CI-AKI who are having a contrast enhanced investigation or interventional procedure?*

There is no requirement for renal physicians to be routinely contacted for high-risk patients. There is a highly developed renal service covering the various Trust sites where advice can be sought. A clinician requesting a contrast procedure is expected to follow the Trust's guidelines 'Prevention of Contrast Media Nephropathy'. A 24 hour on-call service for nephrology allows referring clinicians to ask advice regarding patients at risk or who develop CI-AKI. Patients are reviewed promptly.

*6. Do patients at risk of CI-AKI routinely have post procedure serum urea, creatinine, eGFR and electrolytes measured? If so, at what time post procedure does this happen?*

Please refer to the attached Trust guidelines.

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I trust that this deals with your enquiry to your satisfaction, but if you feel that Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust has misunderstood or not responded appropriately to your request, you have two courses of action:

- You can clarify the terms of your original request to allow this to be looked at again (if you expand your request this will be dealt with as a new request)
- All applicants have the right of appeal. An appeal should be focused on the original request and should identify how the Trust's response failed to answer your Information Request. Appeals must be made in writing to the FOI Manager at the address above.

After the Trust's internal appeals procedure has been exhausted, a further appeal about the same information request can be directed to the Information Commissioner for adjudication. Appeals to the Information Commissioner should be sent for review to the following address:

The Information Commissioner,  
Wycliffe House, Water Lane,  
Wilmslow Cheshire

SK9 5AF

Telephone: 01625 545 700

Facsimile: 01625 545510

E-mail : [mail@ico.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:mail@ico.gsi.gov.uk)

Please contact me again, quoting your reference number, if you require any further assistance with your current request and I will do my best to provide the relevant help and advice.

Yours sincerely

**Nicholas Loizou**

**FOI Manager** | Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust |

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