Have you “Paused & Checked”?

IR(ME)R Operator checklist for theatre and mobile imaging investigations including IRR considerations

| P | Patient | Confirm patient ID (unconscious patients – record the person responsible for confirming ID)  
Verify pregnancy/breastfeeding status  
Confirm pathology results (e.g. eGFR) and no contraindications for the use of intravenous contrast media  
Verify consent |
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Anatomy</td>
<td>Verify anatomical area, laterality, and where patients are draped, position</td>
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| U | User Checks (IRR) | Consider the environment – persons present and entering  
Area designation – controlled or supervised? (Follow Local Rules)  
Prevent unauthorised access – be prepared to terminate exposure!  
Restrict exposures to staff/carers  
Check staff/carers for PPE and correctly positioned dosimeters |
| U | User Checks IR(ME)R | Confirm the exposure is justified and authorised  
Double check previous relevant imaging  
Safety checks – e.g. implantable cardiac defibrillator  
Optimise patient dose (ALARP) |
| S | System & Settings | Confirm visibility/status of warning signage to restrict access  
Confirm correct patient selection from pre-loaded list  
Confirm correct exposure factors  
Final confirmation of CORRECT patient  
Ensure audible exposure warning is given where required |
| E | End exposure | End examination  
Ensure x-ray generator is isolated, or source contained/removed  
Can area be de-designated?  
Ensure mobile equipment is clean and suitably stored |
| D | Draw to a Close | Complete RIS record including dose  
Send images to PACS, check correctly labelled and stored |

IR(ME)R requires all duty holders to comply with their local Employers procedures. This “pause and check” poster does not replace these procedures but represents a shortened summary of the main checks. You must always adhere to your local procedures.