

DIAGNOSTIC IMAGING ADVISORY GROUP (DIAG) WORK PLAN 2021-2022

1. CONTEXT:

- 1.1. Diagnostic imaging is a vital part of the patient pathway for many conditions including acute injury/illness and ongoing treatment; cancer diagnosis and follow up; long term conditions such as vascular disease or arthritis. Improving access to rapid diagnosis is a priority for the patients, the NHS and the wider public health agenda.
- 1.2. A significant component of the modernisation agenda for healthcare focuses on earlier diagnosis for patients with cancer which places further importance on the role of diagnostic radiographers and associated diagnostic imaging professionals in the pathway. A rising focus on productivity has combined with workforce efficiency, improving access and increasing consumer expectations to create an urgency to review patterns of practice.
- 1.3. Diagnostic radiographers and the wider diagnostic workforce working within this technologically sophisticated care environment must be supported and developed to be able to maximise their individual and collective potential in delivering the best care for people using their services.

2. RATIONALE:

- 2.1. The DIAG aims to contribute to the development of the profession and in raising its profile nationally. It will be an effective voice for the community of diagnostic radiographers and the wider diagnostic imaging nonmedical workforce within the Society of Radiographers.

3. DIAG OBJECTIVES:

- 3.1. To provide advice and information to the organisation relating to:
 - 3.1.1. the continuing education and professional development needs of diagnostic radiographers and the wider diagnostic imaging workforce.
 - 3.1.2. the development needs of the service to provide patient centred care.
- 3.2. To promote explicit career development pathways, in line with organisation policy, for diagnostic radiographers and the wider diagnostic imaging workforce across all aspects of the profession.

- 3.3. To facilitate research and guideline development for the benefit of patients and for publication by The Society and College of Radiographers.
- 3.4. To represent the organisation in relevant inter-professional forums.
- 3.5. To develop, respond to and comment upon documents as requested by the organisation and its officers.
- 3.6. To debate policy and evaluate its impact on the profession making representation as necessary.
- 3.7. To promote and support the policy decisions of the organisation.
- 3.8. To undertake projects/pieces of work on behalf of the organisation and profession as agreed.
- 3.9. To communicate effectively and to share information among the members of the profession at all times.

4. TARGETS FOR 2021/2022:

4.1. Document development

- 4.1.1. Support the delivery of the revised Assistant Practitioner Scope of Practice Guidance document or the agreed replacement.
- 4.1.2. Support the delivery of the revised 'Preliminary Clinical Evaluation and Clinical Reporting by Radiographers: Policy and Practice' Guidance, potentially in collaboration with CRAG and the other modality specific advisory groups. This work would align with the delivery of 300 reporting radiographers via HEE Cancer Workforce Plan, the opportunities identified in Richards and GIRFT reports and also the emergence of the HEE Centre for Advancing Practice.
- 4.1.3. Contribute to other SCoR publications as requested

4.2. Workforce

- 4.2.1. Participate in workforce review work e.g. Post Covid Recovery Workforce Strategy
- 4.2.2. Share information from workplaces via Synapse and face to face meetings
- 4.2.3. Represent SoR at meetings/working parties as required

4.3. Leadership and Mentorship guidance

- 4.3.1. Support the development of guidance and influence content

4.4. Respond to Consultations

- 4.4.1. Provide broad view across the clinical imaging community seeking views of peers and colleagues and representing their views back to DIAG

4.5. Provide SoR representation on national working parties as requested by SoR

- 4.5.1. National arm's length Boards and working parties

4.6. Communication

- 4.6.1. Attend working party/sub group meetings as required
- 4.6.2. Promote the work of DIAG
- 4.6.3. Suggest website links/articles/news stories for Clinical Imaging pages on the SCoR website

4.7. Recognise and reflect the diversity of radiographic practice, policy and legislation of across the four nations of the UK

- 4.7.1 Ensure representation on behalf of all four nations.

5. ACHIEVING THE TARGETS

The Chair of the group will prepare an annual report for SCoR Council.

DIAG members will be identified to support each element of the work plan.

To confirm achievement of targets, the group will monitor the progress of on going work to ensure it remains within time frames and budgets.

Accountability of the group is via the Chair to the Director of Professional Policy.

6. BENEFITS:

- 6.1. Increasing the profile and contribution of the organisation in diagnostic imaging
- 6.2. Ensuring that clinical imaging services and practitioners engage with and benefit from the career progression framework (formerly known as the four-tier structure)
- 6.3. Ensuring that services and practitioners benefit from the Society's expertise in clinical and education matters
- 6.4. Increasing membership of SCoR through engaging with members and demonstrating the value of membership through interaction and involvement.
- 6.5. Improved documents, policies etc. through increased scrutiny

*Society and College of Radiographers
DIAG Work Plan 2021-2022
Chair: Mr Andrew Creeden; Officer: Susan Johnson*