
Overview

This standard relates to image capture and covers obtaining images and the associated data, post imaging processing activities and quality assurance in relation to the equipment and procedures. It covers the range and types of images used in healthcare to inform subsequent or ongoing diagnostic investigations or therapeutic interventions.

The actual range of procedures to obtain images and their associated data will be dependent upon the context in which individuals work. It is expected that this standard can be applied in the range of contexts and working areas.

Users of this standard will need to ensure that practice reflects up to date information and policies.

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Performance criteria

You must be able to:

- P1 work within your level of competence, responsibility and accountability
- P2 confirm the individuals identity, consent and purpose of image capture and maintain their privacy, dignity and confidentiality at all times
- P3 confirm the individuals suitability and readiness for image capture, seek advice where contra-indications are identified
- P4 clearly explain the procedure and requirements for compliance and check the individuals understanding
- P5 apply health and safety measures, infection prevention and control and personal protective equipment appropriate to the procedure and clinical condition
- P6 check and maintain the correct environmental factors for the process and the materials being used
- P7 confirm all safety procedures, quality checks and documentations are complete in accordance with current guidelines and requirements
- P8 ensure only essential individuals remain during image acquisition
- P9 correctly select image production method, resources and associated systems according to the type of image required and the materials or systems on which it is to be produced or stored
- P10 select all parameters for the imaging procedure and position the individual and equipment safely, ensuring comfort, to obtain the required images
- P11 ensure all images and the associated imaging parameters are clearly and accurately labelled with the correct individual's details
- P12 operate and handle equipment, materials and associated systems safely in a manner which will minimise risk or damage to the individual, environment or image
- P13 commence image acquisition and monitor patient for signs of discomfort and compliance
- P14 take immediate attention to remedy faults or minimise damage to equipment and materials where faults or breakdowns occur in equipment during use, and inform the appropriate person promptly
- P15 confirm the quality of images and associated data produced meets the required standards and when appropriate, take action to optimise the image
- P16 check the quality of images and data obtained on completion and seek advice if this is outside your level of responsibility
- P17 where appropriate and when safe to do so, take additional images or undertake image post-processing to enhance the examination, in accordance with local policy and procedures
- P18 on completion ensure individual receives necessary support to prepare for departure and explain the next steps

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- P19 collate and prepare appropriate documentation and images, maintaining the security of the image capture and associated data in accordance with local policies and protocols
 - P20 maintain full, accurate and legible records of all information collected and store in correct location in line with current legislation, guidelines, local policies and protocols

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

- K1 your own level of competence, authority and specialist knowledge base related to obtaining images
- K2 the importance of confirming individual's identity, authorisation for the procedure, and implications of failure to do so
- K3 how to maintain the privacy, dignity, safety and confidentiality of the individual during image acquisition
- K4 the underpinning principles of science, technology , engineering and physics relevant to your scope of practice
- K5 the relevant anatomy and physiology, their common, normal variants and their appearance as images within your work practice
- K6 the principles of data collection used in imaging techniques relevant to your work practice
- K7 where to seek advice, how and from whom to obtain additional information to assist with decisions regarding procedures
- K8 the range of health and safety measures, infection prevention and control and personal protective equipment, their importance and their application within the procedure and the clinical condition of the individual
- K9 the importance of risk analysis, risk assessment and how to apply relevant control measures
- K10 the range of appropriate equipment, materials and systems for image production and associated data collection, their limitations and potential sources of error
- K11 the range of different image and associated data presentations and storage formats and when and how these should be used within your work practice
- K12 the relevant protocols, procedures associated with image acquisition, data collection, storage and transfer, including emergency procedures
- K13 why it is important that images and associated data must be labelled with the individual's unique identifier and image site
- K14 the range of correct environmental conditions required for image production and storage
- K15 the types of equipment and resources and how these should be prepared and quality checked
- K16 how to communicate effectively in the appropriate medium to meet the individual's needs and preferences
- K17 how to check the individual's or relevant others understanding and how to encourage participation and compliance
- K18 the importance of checking for presence of implanted medical devices, prostheses and objects that could interfere with the image capture and affect patient or equipment safety and the implications of failure to do so
- K19 how to correctly position the individual and the equipment for optimum

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- imaging
- K20 the factors that can cause artefacts or other discrepancies on the completed image and the range of methods used to assess and measure the image quality
- K21 the importance of operating the equipment and associated software in the correct and safe manner and how to identify and report any faults/breakdowns in the equipment in a timely fashion
- K22 the importance of retaining unaltered and /or enhanced images in accordance with legal requirements
- K23 the range of procedures pertaining to recording, collating and preparing appropriate documentation, images and their associated data for transfer in accordance with legal and local requirements
- K24 the current legislation, national guidelines, organisational policies and protocols, clinical and information governance within your work practice
- K25 the policies and guidance that clarify your scope of practice, accountabilities and the working relationship between yourself and others

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Additional Information

External Links

This standard links with the following dimension within the NHS Knowledge and Skills Framework (October 2004):

Dimension: HWB6 Assessment and treatment planning

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