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From: Department of Radiology and OCR [ocr@exchange.upenn.edu]
Sent: Wednesday, September 02, 2015 3:05 PM
To: ocr@exchange.upenn.edu
Subject: MRI, US Research Scans

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Attention: Research Community

Subject: MRI, US Research Scans

This memo provides guidance to investigators and staff on (i) when research orders for MRI and Ultrasound need to be placed in EPIC and (ii) when pregnancy testing is required prior to MRI. Please note this memo does not apply to CT, nuclear medicine or interventional radiology.

All MRI and US, scans that (i) are conducted as part of a clinical trial, (ii) require a clinical read, and/or (iii) require the use of Gadolinium, require an order signed by a licensed provider and must be scheduled through Radiant (the Radiology system) by calling 215 662 3000. Results will be placed in the subjects EMR. The standard IRB approved consent language is to be used.

MRI and US, Scans conducted solely for research purposes, that do not require a clinical read or storage of images on the Radiology PACs system, can be ordered and scheduled outside of EPIC by a member of the research team. No information about the scan will be entered in EPIC. In this situation scheduling occurs as described below

* MRI scans can be scheduled by blocking time on the CFN calendar:

<https://cfn.upenn.edu/calendar/index.php?UID=&st=&en=&co=&re=1&vi=week&ta=1180378751>

* Ultrasound scans can be scheduled by calling Susan Schultz: 215-573-0972

The modified consent language to be included when imaging is being conducted outside of EPIC has been approved by the IRB and is as follows, "The (insert name of the imaging: MRI and/or US) performed under this protocol is not for medical purposes, and the images are not planned to be interpreted by a physician."

MRI and Pregnancy Testing:

Consistent with clinical care standards, pregnancy testing will not be required prior to conducting MRI scans for research purposes. Attestation of pregnancy will be accepted at the time of MRI screening. Existing studies, that currently include pregnancy testing prior to scanning, can be amended to remove the requirement now and be submitted to the IRB for approval. Alternatively the study can be amended at the time of the next IRB continuing review. If you elect not to amend the study until the time of the next IRB continuing review, CAMRIS will continue to supply pregnancy tests for the next 12 months.

Effective August 31st 2016, when a protocol requires mandatory pregnancy testing the responsibility will rest with the PI to ensure the testing completed.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Dr. Schnall, Dr. Meagher, Kathleen Thomas, Radiology Clinical Research Operations Director or the Office of Clinical Research Staff at 215-746-8334 or ocr@exchange.upenn.edu.

This information can also be found on the OCR website at
<http://www.med.upenn.edu/ocr/announcements.html>

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