NEW ARRANGEMENTS FOR GP ELECTRONIC X-RAY REQUESTS
Updated on 20th August 2021

Dear Primary Care colleague

POST COVID SCHEDULED GP X-RAY ARRANGEMENTS FOR ELECTRONIC REQUESTS

In Radiology, we are extremely grateful to you for the massive reduction in referrals for walk-in x-rays in the last month or so. This has undoubtedly reduced the spread of Coronavirus and helped to save lives. However, we recognise that this has caused significant difficulty in the management of patients and that some ‘easing’ of these restrictions is now required.

I wanted to update you on our current plan for GP x-ray patients. This supersedes any recent advice.

In summary:
- We will require an electronic referral, made before the patient phones for an appointment
- Because all X-ray requests must be vetted in accordance with IRMER rules, please ask the patient/carer to wait ONE WORKING DAY after submission of referral before phoning for an appointment.
- We are now accepting all the standard plain film requests we performed ‘pre-Covid’
- This will include a CXR service, but we ask that anyone with new-onset of symptoms consistent with Covid is managed without a GP request for CXR
- Patients should phone the department they wish to attend to arrange an appointment; they should not just present themselves as they used to be able to
- Appointments are being used to maintain social distancing within X-Ray departments
- Patients may have to wait several days for an appointment or be asked to attend another x-ray department for an alternative appointment
- Children (under 16s) should either attend the Royal Hospital for Sick Children or SJH
- I have appended a suggested script below for making the referral
- This document has been approved by Drummond Begg (Chair, LMC GP sub) and Gareth Evans (RefHelp Lead for Radiology)

Yours sincerely

Stephen Glancy
Consultant Radiologist and Primary Care Imaging Lead

PLEASE REFER TO INFORMATION ON PAGE 2 OF THIS DOCUMENT WHEN MAKING THE REFERRAL

Dr Stephen Glancy, 23rd September 2020
SUGGESTED SCRIPT FOR PATIENT AND GP CONSULTATION:

- GP recommends an x-ray
- After getting a pen and paper, ask the patient to make a note of:
  1. Their CHI number
  2. The phone number to be used to book an appointment
  3. The earliest they should call to allow SCI-GW referral to be made
- Tell them not to arrive before their appointment as they will not be allowed access to the department prior to that time
- Tell the patient to attend alone
- Advise them not to attend if they have any symptoms of Coronavirus infection as per Government advice
- Patients MUST phone to arrange appointment within 30 days unless the GP advises otherwise.

**PATIENTS - Please Call Monday to Friday 08.30 – 16:00 only**

Radiology Departments – to arrange appointments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Phone Number</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Leith Community Treatment Centre</td>
<td>0131 536 6400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Lothian Community Hospital</td>
<td>01620 642 732</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lauriston Building</td>
<td>0131 536 2942</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RHCYP (U16s only)</td>
<td>0131 312 0880</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RIE</td>
<td>0131 242 3700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SJH</td>
<td>01506 524 339</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>01506 524 350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WGH</td>
<td>0131 537 2054</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please note Midlothian Community Hospital Radiology Department is closed at the moment; we will inform you once this service resumes.

If you have any specific questions, please contact the duty radiologist on the numbers below:
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WGH: 0131 537 2315 – this number is NOT for patients (see above for relevant patient numbers)
SJH: 01506 524 352 – this number is NOT for patients (see above for relevant patient numbers)
RIE: 0131 242 3572 – this number is NOT for patients (see above for relevant patient numbers)
RHCYP: 0131 312 0120 – this number is NOT for patients (see above for relevant patient numbers)