

**RADIATION PROTECTION  
POLICY AND PROCEDURES  
NUMBER : 15**

**NAIR AND OTHER RADIATION EMERGENCIES**

**Scope**

This document refers to radiation incidents outside the Medical Physics Service. These may be calls for advice and assistance from the emergency services, perhaps at the roadside or on industrial premises. They may result from a contaminated casualty presenting at any of the Humberside A & E units, or alternatively an overdose or accident situation in other hospital departments. In addition staff may be called on for support in the event of a remote nuclear incident.

**Initial Procedure**

a) Working Hours

Medical Physics and Nuclear Medicine departmental offices each have a procedure sheet with a call-out list. A record should be made of each call and the list activated. If no-one is available for internal incidents secretarial staff should consult the most senior physicist on site who will obtain advice/support from adjacent area radiation protection advisers. For external incidents involving the emergency services alternative 24 hour cover arrangements are detailed in the NAIR handbook.

b) Out of Hours Calls

Switchboard at PRH have a call-out list and will attempt to contact the four designated staff. If no-one can be contacted then the emergency services will contact the next available area detailed in the NAIR handbook. Switchboard staff should keep a record of all calls and inform the Radiation Protection Adviser at the earliest possible opportunity.

**Call-Out Procedure**

- a) When a scientist has been contacted he should -
- i) Alert another member of staff to provide assistance.
  - ii) Contact the Incident Control Officer for more information.
  - iii) Proceed to PRH and collect emergency box and attend incident.

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- iv) At the incident -
  - a) If in doubt call for assistance from base or second stage NAIR.
  - b) Let the emergency services deal with Press etc.
  - c) Record everything (use assistant).
  - d) Ensure that other statutory bodies e.g. HSE/HMIP/DOE/Public Health are contacted as necessary - Public Health.

**Follow Up**

After the incident -

- a) Write brief report copies to the Radiation Protection Adviser for transmission to NRPB and other colleagues.
- b) Abbreviated report to incident control etc.
- c) Ensure any lessons learnt are included in NAIR report.

**Nuclear Emergencies Etc. (RIMNET)**

If an alert is received from the Department of Health or other bodies for a major international or national incident the Service may be called on to provide personnel monitoring at port of entry, advice and a limited monitoring facility at Princess Royal Hospital and Grimsby. Contingency plans for the East Riding Health and United Health Areas are held by East Riding Health and include arrangements for;

- i) Major incident scheme/control room
- ii) Information to the general public
- iii) Personal monitoring arrangements.

Technical information will be available via BT Gold which can be accessed through the Medical Physics office computer (see procedure sheet).

**Contaminated Casualties**

Specific guidance<sup>1</sup> on the handling and treatment of casualties contaminated with radioactive substances is issued to each Humberside casualty department and Humberside Ambulance Service.

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<sup>1</sup> Guidance For Humberside Hospital Staff And Ambulance Crews Who May Need To Deal With Casualties Contaminated By Low Level Radioactive Substances

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