

To:	RQI Lead, QI Tech Lead, CEO, Group CEO	December 2016	Ref Bulletin 2
Circulate to:	Clinical Directors, All Radiology staff		
From:	Dr John Feeney, Chair, QI Radiology Working Group		
Edition:	Radiology QI Programme - Bulletin 2		
Subject:	Radiology National QI Programme – New Phase		

Good afternoon,

We would like to follow up on the recent Faculty of Radiologists Annual Scientific Meeting, and earlier QI Participant Workshop, with two announcements that signal a new phase for the Radiology QI Programme:

Quick links

- [Faculty of Radiologists Message](#)
- [For your action](#)
- [Support for National Clinical Audit](#)
- [National Clinical Audit](#)
- [MOU](#)

- The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) agreement introduced at this year’s events has been finalised by the Programme and will be distributed to all participants in the coming weeks.
- The Radiology QI Programme has decided to submit an application to the National Clinical Effectiveness Committee for National Clinical Audit status as set out in the forthcoming Health Information and Patient Safety Bill.

The aim of this bulletin is to provide some detail on each of these developments and inform programme participants on what to expect as we move into this new phase. The MOU and measures to secure Legal Protection for QI Activities are part of the embedding and rollout of the RQI programme at a national level.

As noted in a recent Faculty email, from the Dean to all QI Leads, the National Clinical Audit application will require the support of all programme participants.

Upcoming Events

January 2017 – Site Engagement with participants

February 2017 – Submission to the NCEC of the Radiology QI Programme for National Clinical Audit

The QI Programme will be engaging with all participants over the next two months to help support radiology departments with the activities involved in participation.

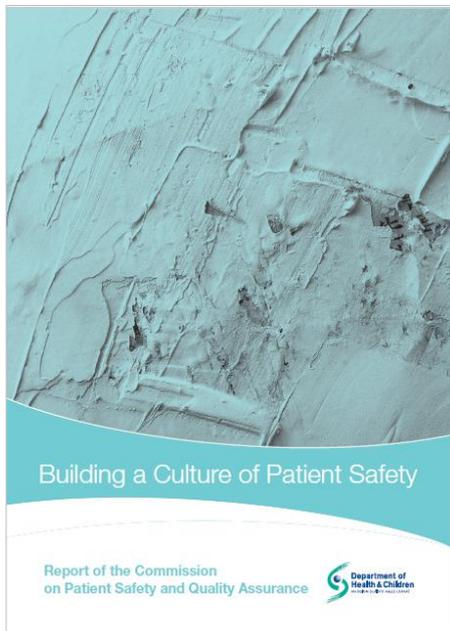
Please circulate this bulletin to your colleagues, via notice boards, etc. Your suggestions and feedback are welcome to qi@radiology.ie

Sincerely,

Dr John Feeney,
Chair
Radiology QI Programme Working Group

National Clinical Audit

The Faculty of Radiologists have been successful in pushing the Radiology QI Programme to the top of the NCEC agenda to ensure that the Programme will have the National Clinical Audit status in place for the commencement of the Health Information and Patient Safety (HIPS) Bill.



Protection from legal discovery through Freedom Of Information Acts, for QI Activity data, recommended in the Report of the Commission on Patient Safety and Quality Assurance in 2008, has long been called for by the Radiology QI Programme.

It will finally be afforded by the upcoming HIPS Bill; expected mid 2017.

The route for programmes to secure this protection is by Ministerial endorsement as National Clinical Audit on the recommendation of the National Clinical Effectiveness Committee (NCEC).

The QI Programme is now preparing an application to the NCEC to a very tight timeline.

Requirements of Submission for National Clinical Audit

The NCEC have outlined a framework through which programmes applying for "National Clinical Audit" status will be assessed. National Clinical Audit (NCA) requires national measurement against standards (targets):

1. Targets must be developed for the programme to be endorsed as NCA
2. Data must exist in the system for there to be measurement.

The Programme is now working on setting targets for key quality areas outlined in the QI Guidelines and displayed in NQASI-Radiology.

These targets will be appropriate for the early phase of the programme, given the recent launch of NQAIS-Radiology, and will reflect the emphasis on improvement in the programme rather than setting unreasonable standards.

Targets will facilitate commentary by the QI Programme on the national aggregate performance in Annual Data Reports, and will allow participants to easily determine what areas their departments need to focus on.

By the time of application submission to the NCEC, the QI Programme will need to have notably improved participation rates and we expect to see this improvement following receipt of the instructions set out in the MOU.



Memorandum of Understanding

The Radiology Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) will be sent to all hospital CEOs and Radiology departments in the next two weeks.

Histopathology issued an MOU in 2014 and has received signed copies from all hospitals. The Endoscopy QI Programme will be issuing MOUs at the same time as Radiology.

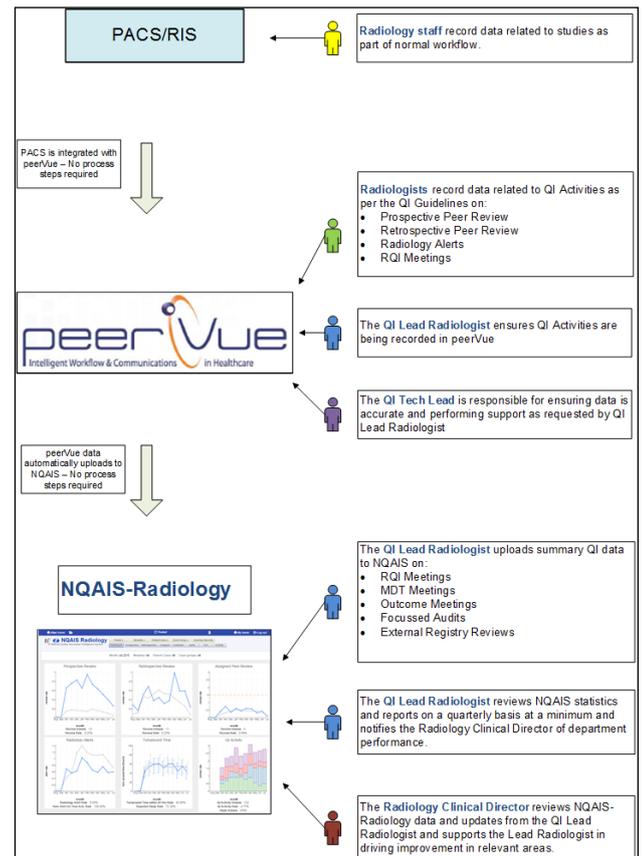
The central purpose of the MOU is to formally set out the roles and responsibilities of all programme stakeholders.

Participation Requirements

- 1) recording of QI data electronically (Radiologists)
- 2) uploading Summary Data quarterly (QI Lead Radiologist)
- 3) reviewing KQI statistics in NQAIS-Radiology quarterly (QI Lead Radiologist)
- 4) taking action where appropriate (QI Lead Radiologist and Clinical Director)

The Faculty of Radiologists recognize the time involved will have an impact on the time of both the QI Lead Radiologist and all radiologists in the department.

Therefore, the MOU will be for a period of one year and a review of the MOU will follow an audit of participant experience.



Roles and Responsibilities

- A summary of participant roles and responsibilities is outlined in the MOU with a more complete list in the QI Programme Information Governance Policy V2, appended to the MOU.
- Signatories include the following:

Hospital

1. CEO
2. Radiology Clinical Director
3. Consultant Radiologist in Administrative Charge
4. QI Lead Radiologist
5. QI Tech Lead

Faculty of Radiologists

1. Dean of the Faculty of Radiologists
2. Chair of the Faculty of Radiologists Working Group

Radiology National QI Programme

1. Chair of the Steering Committee of the National QI Programme
2. Head of Education, Innovation and Research RCPI