



RADIATION SPILLAGES

KEY POINTS

Handle radioactive material with great care
If a possible radioactive spill occurs, follow the procedure outlined below

INTRODUCTION

Radioactive material in the hospital is handled with great care by expert staff who follow detailed rules to ensure safety. Radiosotopes may be administered to patients for diagnostic or therapeutic purposes.

Inpatients having radioisotopes return to the ward with a radiation protection form from the Nuclear Medicine department. This should be filed in the patient's notes.

SPILLAGES


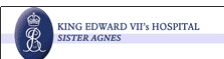



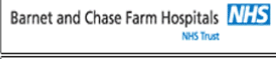




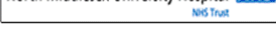
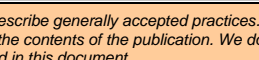
Radioisotopes are usually handled by a member of the nuclear medicine team. If a spillage occurs (eg a syringe is dropped on a ward),

OR

In the extremely rare case that such a patient should vomit or urinate in a uncontrolled way particularly while moving between the Radiotherapy or Nuclear Medicine Department and a ward or other area, it is possible that the urine or vomit may be radioactive and contamination could occur.

If this possibility is suspected, the **procedure** is to contact a Radiation Protection Supervisor or one of the following:

- The registrar from the ward responsible for the patient
- A member of staff from the Nuclear Medicine Department
- A member of staff from the Radiotherapy Department
- A member of staff from the Medical Physics Department
- The senior nurse from the ward responsible for the patient

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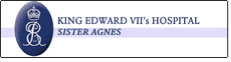







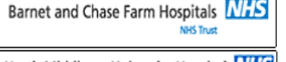
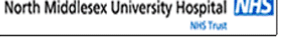


REFERENCES

The List of Wastes (England) Regulations 2005 No. 895.

The Hazardous Waste (England and Wales) Regulations 2005 No. 894.

Hazardous Waste – Interpretation of the definition and classification of hazardous waste – Technical Guidance WM2.

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