

**RECORD OF COMPETENCIES ACHIEVED IN THE  
CARDIAC CATHETER LAB**

**NAME:**

**DATE OF START OF TRAINING:**

**DATE TRAINING WAS COMPLETED.....**

**SIGNATURE OF SUPERINTENDENT .....**

**SIGN THAT YOU HAVE READ THE LOCAL RULES**

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# **COMPETENCIES FOR RADIOGRAPHERS IN THE CARDIAC CATHETER LAB**

## **Guidelines:**

**In order to undertake any procedure in the cardiac catheter lab staff should meet the criteria laid down in the following pages and where required provide evidence of competence. All support will be given to provide adequate training and resources will be made available within the department and cardiac catheter lab to assist in achieving competencies.**

**A logbook of procedures assisted in, along with the record of competencies should be maintained.**

**No procedure should be undertaken unsupervised unless the competency has been achieved.**

**Competencies can be achieved individually or in multiple sections. The Superintendent or Clinical specialist radiographer can sign off competencies**

## COMPETENCIES FOR RADIOGRAPHERS IN THE CARDIAC CATHETER LAB

	Signature of trainee	Signature of trainer
<p><b>Control panel/computer/emergency stop buttons/disable exposure</b></p> <p>You should be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• switch on</li> <li>• identify emergency stop buttons</li> <li>• disable exposure</li> <li>• recognise failed initiation and know how to reboot</li> <li>• record faults</li> <li>• identify file space remaining and delete files accordingly</li> <li>• input patient data</li> <li>• select appropriate program</li> <li>• switch off and show an understanding of the importance of the tube cool down period</li> </ul> <p><b>C-arm/intensifier/table controls/monitor gantry</b></p> <p>You should be able to locate and use correctly controls buttons, knobs and footswitches for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• moving the c-arm from the 'park' position to the correct position for screening the heart and the groin and have an understanding of the limits of movement and possible dangers from obstacles</li> <li>• the image intensifier movement and show an understanding of positioning with due regard to the procedure, patient safety and radiation protection</li> <li>• collimation during screening in order to minimise dose to staff</li> <li>• table top vertical/lateral/longitudinal movement. Also longitudinal offset</li> <li>• also show a knowledge of collision detectors and how to appropriately override them</li> </ul>		

	Signature of trainee	Signature of trainer
<p><b>Image acquisition</b></p> <p>You should be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• correctly identify footswitch operation for fluoroscopy and acquisition</li> <li>• correctly position the image intensifier for image acquisition with due regard to information required, image quality and radiation protection</li> <li>• use collimation and filtering to optimise image quality and minimise dose</li> <li>• select and or change program as required</li> <li>• select appropriate pressure injector parameters</li> </ul> <p><b>Pressure Injector</b></p> <p>You should be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• follow correct procedure for loading and unloading syringes</li> <li>• demonstrate safe practice in the use of the pressure injector especially with regard to the dangers of air embolus</li> <li>• demonstrate the ability to select and modify parameters as appropriate and 'arm' injector ready for use</li> </ul> <p><b>Procedures</b></p> <p>You should be able to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• undertake a basic coronary angiogram with access via the femoral artery</li> <li>• undertake a basic coronary angiogram with access via the radial artery</li> <li>• undertake interventional procedures safely</li> <li>• undertake screening for a pacemaker insertion</li> <li>• undertake screening for a electrophysiology study</li> <li>• recognise common indications for coronary angiography/angioplasty both elective an acute</li> <li>• maintain a logbook of training</li> </ul>		

	Signature of trainee	Signature of trainer
<p><b>Archiving</b></p> <p>You should be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• archive a case to the hard disc of the ACOM unit</li> <li>• archive a case to CD</li> <li>• copy a case from CD to CD</li> <li>• show an understanding of the CD archiving system</li> <li>• identify problems and the appropriate action to take</li> </ul> <p><b>Patient care</b></p> <p>You should be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• check patient details as per the department protocol</li> <li>• provide an appropriate explanation of the procedure to be performed and support the patient before, during and after the procedure</li> <li>• make patients as comfortable as possible, paying particular attention to pressure areas and arm support</li> <li>• recognise complications of procedures and know how to take appropriate action (setting up drips, location of emergency drugs, contacting crash team/on-call anaesthetist)</li> </ul> <p><b>Administration</b></p> <p>You should be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• maintain the radiographers register</li> <li>• record on the radiology system procedures the patient has undergone and the relevant dose</li> <li>• record relevant information on the lab database</li> </ul>		

	Signature of trainee	Signature of trainer
<p><b>Radiation protection</b></p> <p>You should be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• show an understanding of the local rules and the risk of exposure during pregnancy</li> <li>• explain the term ‘controlled area’ and what it means in terms of access to the catheter lab</li> <li>• demonstrate good practice in the use of screening controls, positioning of the image intensifier and collimation</li> <li>• ensure that other members of staff are adequately protected and positioned within the room</li> <li>• show a working knowledge of the inverse square law and correct personal protective and monitoring equipment</li> <li>• know how and when to use the ‘exposure disable’ switch</li> <li>• be able to advise visiting staff and other persons about their exposure to radiation</li> <li>• follow departmental protocols for recording doses and screening times and who to inform of any unusual clinical incident relating to radiation</li> <li>• demonstrate knowledge of IR(ME)R &amp; IRR99 and how to apply them</li> </ul>		