Abstract #12257

Progress in the optimization of radiation protection in paediatric interventional radiology and cardiology in Latin America and the Caribbean (OPRIPALC project)
Title

Poster Presentation
Preferred Presentation Format

Radiation Protection / EuroSafe Imaging
Topic

none
Support programme applications

E. Vano[1], M. d. R. Perez[2], P. Jimenez[3], C. Ubeda[4], P. Miranda[5], A. Nader[6], R. Ramirez[7], I. Fleitas[8]; [1]Madrid/ES, [2]Geneva/CH, [3]Washington, MD/US, [4]Arica/CL, [5]Santiago/CL, [6]Montevideo/UY, [7]Vienna/AT, [8]La Habana/CU
Authors

Body

Knowing about the advances in the OPRIPALC project
Purpose or Learning Objective

The International Basic Safety Standards have requirements for the protection in medical exposures of patients including the establishment of diagnostic reference levels (DRLs). The World Health Organization (WHO), the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) initiated in 2019 a project for enhancing optimization in paediatric interventional radiology in Latin American and Caribbean countries through the use of DRLs (OPRIPALC project).
The main objectives of the project refer to: a) Promote radiation safety culture in paediatric interventional radiology, b) Improve radiation safety and quality of care in the participating centres, c) Define optimization strategies based on DRLs and an auditing patient doses and d) Produce a regional consensus document offering guidance on optimization.
Methods or Background

Only a few patient dose values have been collected from the initial group of 36 paediatric hospitals from 10 different countries that initially declared their interest in the programme. By the end of 2020 and during 2021, the efforts will be concentrated in establishing direct contacts with the practitioners performing paediatric fluoroscopy-guided interventions at the centres involved, to identify the difficulties and help in managing patient dose reports. Actions include engagement of manufacturers to help in finding technological solutions for dose management and launching of an OPRIPAL web site.
Results or Findings

The progress of the OPRIPALC progress is focused on identifying the difficulties for the dosimetric collection of data and improving the collaboration of the manufacturers to help with this issue.
Conclusion

The lack of dose management systems and the restrictions resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic
Limitations

No personal data of patients are used in the OPRIPALC project
Ethics committee approval

Multicategories

Interventional vascular, Paediatric, Radioprotection / Radiation dose
Area of Interest

Catheter arteriography, Fluoroscopy
Imaging Technique

Audit and standards, Dosimetry, Radiation safety
Procedure

Dosimetric comparison, Education and training
Special Focus

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