



Radiology: Our team

When you come for your scan, you will meet a lot of people who wear different uniforms. This information helps you to distinguish between the different staff members you may meet when you come for your appointment at any of our sites and hopefully understand their role in your care.

Radiographers

Radiographers are degree-qualified health professionals who specialise in medical imaging. They take x-rays and perform CT, MRI, and ultrasound scans.

Radiographers work across the Trust in many different clinical environments including our cardiology (heart) unit, interventional suites, through to outpatient clinics and neonatal intensive care.

Radiographers wear maroon scrub tunics with navy trousers. Staff working in our theatre and interventional suites are required wear theatre scrubs and will explain their role in the team when introducing themselves to you.

All radiographers must be registered with the Health Care Professions Council (HCPC) before they are allowed to work in the UK.



Sonographers

A sonographer is either a radiographer or qualified health care professional who has completed postgraduate training in Ultrasound. They are specialists in performing and interpreting ultrasound examinations and producing a clinical report for the referring clinician.

Radiology sonographers wear teal scrub tunics and navy trousers.



Mammographers

A mammographer is a radiographer who has completed postgraduate training in mammography. They specialise in performing mammographic (breast) examinations, which are used to detect and monitor breast conditions, including early signs of breast cancer. Mammographers wear burgundy scrub tunics with navy trousers.



Radiologists

A Radiologist is a medical doctor who has undergone specialist training to interpret diagnostic images such as X-rays, CT scans, and MRI scans. They play a key role in diagnosing illnesses, planning treatments, and guiding clinical teams. Radiologists also perform interventional procedures, which are scans carried out at the same time as a treatment or

diagnostic intervention. While most ultrasound scans are performed by sonographers, some may be carried out by a radiologist depending on the clinical need.

Radiologists provide a written clinical report for every examination or procedure, which is sent to the referring clinician.

Radiologists do not wear a uniform, unless they are working in the interventional suites where they wear navy coloured theatre scrubs.

Radiology nurse and health care (HCA) assistants

A nurse's role has always been to care for the patient and to act as the patient's advocate and this is no different in Radiology. Our nurses are trained in a wide range of skills specific to x-ray and vascular access (introducing or removing catheters/lines in the bloodstream). As part of the intervention team, they will often assist radiologists with specialist procedures or provide post-procedure care in our recovery suite.

Radiology nurses wear dark and light blue tunics.



Staff Nurse



Sister



Matron

HCAs work under the guidance of a healthcare professional, in this case the radiology nursing team. They assist washing and dressing patients, monitor patients' conditions by taking temperatures, pulse, respirations and weight, and help people to move around, and generally making patients feel as comfortable as possible.

Healthcare assistants wear dark purple tunics



Radiology department assistant (RDA)

The role of the HCA and RDA is to support radiologists, radiographers and nurses, and to help patients. They may get you ready for your examination, for example getting you changed into a gown, giving you a drink before a CT scan or helping you to complete a questionnaire before your MRI scan.

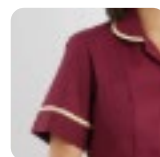
In our Radiology Department, we have a team of approximately 20 HCAs and RDAs.

RDAs wear Caribbean blue scrub tunics with navy trousers.



Assistant practitioners and apprentice radiographers

Assistant practitioners are skilled individuals who have formal training in diagnostic imaging and will often perform your x-ray/scans. They are not radiographers, as they do not hold a professional registration with the HCPC, so radiographers supervise some aspects of their work.



Apprentice radiographers are employees of the department who are enrolled in a degree programme at university to become a radiographer. They will perform many x-rays/scans with varying levels of supervision, dependant on their stage of training.

Assistant practitioners and apprentice radiographers wear maroon collar tunics with cream piping.

Student radiographers

Student radiographers are enrolled on a degree programme at university to become a radiographer. They are not Trust employees but we support their practical placements, designed to develop the skills needed to be a radiographer.

If a student is performing your x-ray/scan they will be under a suitable level of supervision, dependant on their level of training.

We currently support students enrolled with the University of Hertfordshire who wear white collar tunics with a green piping



Administration and clerical team

These staff are the first point of contact for patients, hospital teams, and GPs. They ensure you receive the correct examination, in the right place at the right time, and help patients and clinicians navigate complex care pathways.

The PACS (picture archive and communications system) team maintains our imaging IT and image storage systems, keeping patient records accurate and up to date.

On arrival, the administration and clerical team will greet you, check your details, and book you onto the system.

Finally...

If, during your hospital visit, you are unsure who any member of staff is or what their role is, please ask – they will be happy to explain. You can also find out more about the department and access a list of our leaflets on the Trust website.

Visit <https://www.royalberkshire.nhs.uk/our-services/radiology/>

To find out more about our Trust visit www.royalberkshire.nhs.uk

Please ask if you need this information in another language or format.

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RBFT Radiology

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