



## ACTIONS, INITIATIVES AND CHALLENGES ON ALARA/RADIATION PROTECTION

[www.efrs.eu](http://www.efrs.eu)



Graciano Paulo  
Vice-President of EFRS

## PURPOSE AND ROLE

- The EFRS is a non-profit organization, set up by professional societies that represent radiographers in the geographic continent of Europe (professional societies from 30 countries representing  $\pm 100.000$  radiographers).
- The role of the EFRS is to represent, promote and develop the profession of radiographers in Europe, within the whole range of medical imaging, nuclear medicine and radiotherapy.

**OBJECTIVES:**

1. To undertake all actions in order to generate influence on European policies and to negotiate with European bodies about all issues that may be of relevance for the profession.
2. To stimulate inter-state professional cooperation throughout Europe in scientific, technical, ethical, organizational and labor areas by facilitating the exchange of information between member societies.
3. To promote patient safety and radiation protection
4. To promote the use of the EFRS reference code of ethics
5. To develop European standards of professional practice
6. To promote evidence based practice and the principle of 'science in society'
7. To promote harmonization of initial and post-graduate education
8. To facilitate free movement of radiographers
9. To cooperate with other organizations with similar objectives

**EFRS CODE OF ETHICS FOR RADIOGRAPHERS****Professional life**

I will provide a high standard of practice and care at all times;

I will work within the limits of my competence and apply best evidence or best practice in my daily work ;

I must keep my knowledge and skills up to date throughout my working life;

**I must keep to a minimum the radiation exposure to the patient, myself and other persons present at the time of the examination or treatment;**

I will always strive to deliver the best quality of care and treatment to all patients;

I will always ensure the proper function and use of equipment and accessories with care and based upon proper knowledge.

**Relationship with patients**

**I will always do my best to maintain the rights and dignity of patients at all times to provide a safe and supportive environment;**

I understand that information relating to patients must be treated as confidential;

I must not discriminate against any patient in any way;

I will maintain effective communication with patients during their treatment and care;

I must always be aware of the patient's individual needs and vulnerability due to their disease and will provide support as and when needed;

I understand that it is the right of all patients to be given information regarding their future imaging procedures or treatments .

**Personal and professional standards**

I will promote trust and confidence in the profession by my conduct in both in my personal and professional life and uphold the reputation of my profession at all times;

I must keep myself informed of developments within the profession to ensure best possible standards of care;

Whenever possible, I will support and participate in audit and research in order to provide evidence of best practice;

I will support and participate in the clinical education of radiography students to improve their understanding and knowledge of radiography practice;

**I will share knowledge with others in a spirit of collegiality, fully engage in teamwork and uphold the rights of patients in all situations.**



EFRS founded in 2008 (registered in Utrecht - Netherlands)

First Board elected at the AGM in Lisbon - Portugal



## **Focus on radiation protection issues**

**Cooperate in projects related to radiation protection and quality in RD, RT and NM:**

**Clinical Audit Guidelines**

**WHO Global Initiative**

**ORAMED**

**EMAN**

**MEDRAPET**

[www.medrapet.eu](http://www.medrapet.eu)



# MEDRAPET



European Federation of Organizations  
for Medical Physics



**Study on the Implementation of the Medical Exposure  
Directive's Requirements on  
Radiation Protection Training of Medical Professionals in the  
European Union**

**Special Participation of external experts:**

**Madan Rehani – IAEA**

**Maria Del Rosario Perez – WHO**

**Eliseo Vaño – ICRP**

**Annemarie Schmitt-Hannig - BFS**

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## WP0

responsible for the  
management and general  
coordination of the project

**Coordination  
ESR**

## WP1

Conduction of an EU-wide  
study on radiation  
protection training of  
medical professionals in  
the EU Member States

**Leader  
Graciano Paulo - EFRS**

## WP2

Organization of a European  
Workshop on radiation  
protection training of  
medical professionals in  
the EU Member States

**Leader  
John Damilakis - ESR**

## WP3

Development of a  
European Guidance  
document on radiation  
protection training of  
medical professionals

**Leader  
Stelios Christofides - EFOMP**

## National professional/Scientific Societies:

Radiologist Professional Society

Radiographer Professional Society

Medical Physicist Professional Society

Radiation Oncologist Professional Society

Nuclear Medicine Specialist Professional Society

Interventional Radiologist Professional Society

Interventional Cardiologist Professional Society

Gastroenterologist Professional Society

Vascular Surgeons Professional Society

Orthopedic Surgeons Professional Society

Urologists Professional Society

Neurosurgeons Professional Society

Pediatric Professional Society

General Practitioner Professional Society

Emergency Doctor Professional Society

Dentist Professional Society

Nurse Professional Society

Maintenance engineer

## National education Institutions:

Medical Doctors

Radiographers

Medical Physicists

Dentists

Nurses

Maintenance engineer

## National Radiation Protection Authorities

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## METHODOLOGY

	Year 1 - 2011												Year 2 - 2012	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept.	Oct.	Nov	Dec	Jan.	Feb.	Mar
WP1 - Questionnaire design, pilot and target database construction	questionnaire desgin				PS	PC	PA							
WP1 - Questionnaire start								M2/QS						
WP1 - Questionnaire close										QC				
WP1 - Report on replies received/Summary													M3	RD

PS – pilot start

PC – pilot close

PA – pilot analysis

M2/QS – Meeting 2 and questionnaire start

QC – questionnaire close

M3 – meeting 3

RD – Report deliver



**EFRS incorporates 30 Universities as affiliated members organized in a sustainable network (HENRE – Higher Education Network for Radiography in Europe)**



**One of the experts group created is dedicated to RP issues, with two objectives:**

- 1. Give advise and support EFRS Board in RP issues;**
- 2. Develop transnational research projects in RP**





HENRE network developed a project: “Tuning Educational Structures in Europe”

PROJECT NUMBER: 226008-CP-1-2005-1-UK-ERASMUS-TN

### Competences relative to radiation safety

- practise the profession in accordance with current internationally approved statutes and regulations concerning the medical use of ionizing radiation;
- optimally reduce and calculate effective radiation doses for patients, staff and carers;
- understand and use radiation protection protocols;
- advise other professionals regarding safe practice in this area;
- set dose reference levels for all examinations and keep them optimised and updated;
- critical approach to the use of ionising radiation.

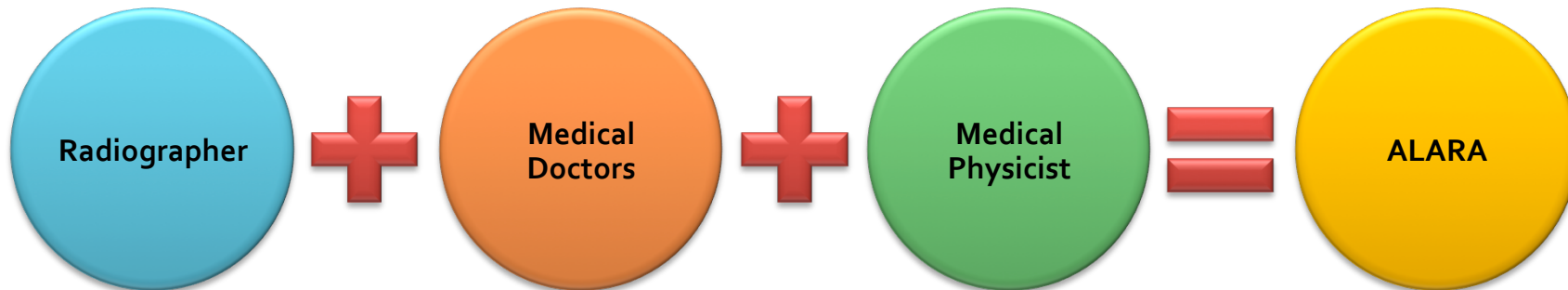
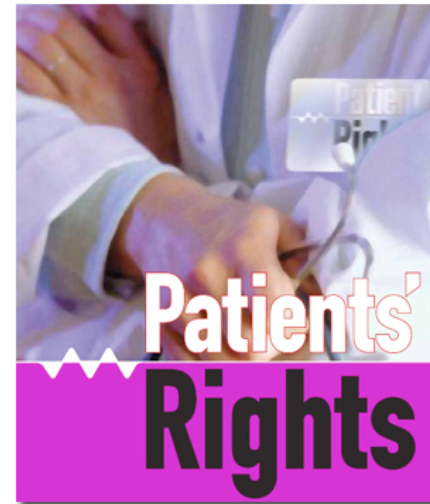
**EFRS strategy is to build a bridge**



**Transform ALARA from a concept into a  
professional commitment**

**Patient has the right to be  
exposed according to ALARA**

**Teamwork is the only way to  
assure this right to the patient**



**This is**



**EFRS**

EUROPEAN FEDERATION OF  
RADIOGRAPHER SOCIETIES

**HOW ??????**

**Build a sustainable network**

**EMAN**

**Develop an ALARA web portal**



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**EFRS** EUROPEAN FEDERATION OF  
RADIOGRAPHER SOCIETIES

**Thank you**

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**ALARA and the medical sector**

13<sup>th</sup> European ALARA Network Workshop 2011

OSCARSBORG FORTRESS, NORWAY • 7-10TH JUNE 2011

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