

Clinical radiology reflection example: CPD

Title and Description of Activity or Event

Date: 3 Dec 2104

RSNA presentation: Contrast studies of the oesophagus in suspected perforation.

Which category of activity does this match?

- * CPD – keeping up to date
- * Aim is to learn latest practice or confirm my methods are in line with the accepted standards.

What have you learned as a result of the activity?

- * Importance of actively looking/tilting patient/repeated swallows paying particular attention to areas most likely to leak in post-operative patient.
- * Understanding the surgery performed and most "risky" regions for leakage vital. Read notes or discuss with surgeon to make sure I know what the revised anatomy is before starting the examination.
- * Contrast: Water soluble. If no leak demonstrated then repeat with low density barium as better at showing small leaks.

What has been the short and long term impact on your professional practice and patient care?

- * Need to actively try and precipitate a leak from the most risky regions of oesophagus which may mean tilting patient even if post-op with drips, O2, chest drains etc.
- * Ensure other staff understand potential difficulties or complications in such ill patients and able to deal with them eg. chest drain being pulled out!
- * Need longer time to complete procedure correctly (than standard Ba swallow).
- * Small leaks should not be missed so appropriate treatment and avoidance of food/drink by mouth instituted which should quicken the recovery of the patient.

State any action points to be carried out following this activity

- * Educate colleagues – points above to spread good practice. Individual discussion with trainees before they perform the examinations.
- * Add subject to next consultants' meeting to ensure colleagues know.
- * Ensure appropriate equipment available in case of complications. Discuss with departmental nurses.
- * Review methods in 6 months.