Quality Improvement Assessment Questions
Nuclear: Positron Emission Tomography (PET)

Answer the questions below by reviewing the images and final report for a given case study. It is recommended that any discrepancies noted in the assessment be reviewed and shared with medical and technical staff members. The assessment is provided to assist the facility in furthering its ongoing Quality Improvement (QI) process.

For the purposes of Quality Improvement (QI), annual case study self-assessment must be sufficient to ensure the achievement of continuous actions that lead to measurable improvement in the imaging examinations performed in the facility. To attain maximum benefit to the facility, a minimum of 30 case assessments is strongly recommended. However, for facilities with lower procedure volumes, 5% of the facility’s testing volume is encouraged.

Note: Although the case may be in compliance with the IAC Standards based on your assessment, there may be opportunity for improvement.

I. Test appropriateness

Based on published appropriate use criteria or clinical judgement, was the clinical indication for the test appropriate? Part G, 2.1.1C

○ Appropriate/usually appropriate
○ May be appropriate
○ Rarely appropriate/usually not appropriate

Comments:

II. Technical quality review

1. Is the study free of artifact? (e.g. motion, attenuation, subdiaphragmatic activity, metal, flickering, contamination, brown fat, free pertechnetate, poor labeling) Part A, 3.3.4.4A

○ Yes ○ No

2. Does the study demonstrate adequate count density? Part A, 3.3.4.1A

○ Yes ○ No

3. Was the study processed/displayed/labeled correctly? Part A, 3.3.4.2A and 3.3.4.3A

○ Yes ○ No

Could the technical quality of this case have been improved?

○ Yes ○ No

Comments:

III. Interpretive quality review

1. Are the results of the stress and imaging portions of the test integrated with the following listed in the imaging report: 1) rest/peak stress heart rate; 2) rest/peak stress blood pressure; 3) rest/peak stress ECG findings; and 4) symptoms? Part A, 3.4.9.1A

Applicable to PET Cardiac only.

○ Yes ○ No ○ N/A

2. Is there an adequate description of the 1) size/extent, 2) severity/intensity, 3) type and 4) location of all defects? Part A, 3.4.9.1A

Applicable to PET Cardiac only.

○ Yes ○ No ○ N/A

3. Are the pertinent positive and negative findings described? Part A, 3.4.9.3A Part A, 3.4.10A

Applicable to PET Oncology and PET Neurology only.

○ Yes ○ No ○ N/A

4. Does the report include a succinct impression (e.g., normal, abnormal, equivocal, stable finding)? Part A, 3.4.10A

○ Yes ○ No
5. Was this case correlated with other studies (e.g. cardiac catheterization)? Yes ☐  No ☐  N/A ☐  

6. Did results of this case agree with results of other study (e.g. cardiac catheterization)? Yes ☐  No ☐  N/A ☐  

Could the interpretive quality of this case have been improved? Yes ☐  No ☐

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### IV. Report completeness and timeliness

| 1. Does the report contain all of the required demographic data elements including facility name, facility address, facility phone number, patient gender, patient age or birthdate, requesting health care provider’s name, name of the procedure (type of examination(s))? | Yes ☐  No ☐ |

| 2. Does the report state the clinical indication and pertinent history leading to the performance of the examination? | Yes ☐  No ☐ |

| 3. Does the report include an adequate and/or accurate description of the procedure performed? | Yes ☐  No ☐ |

| 4. Was the radiopharmaceutical and pharmaceutical identity, exact dose (i.e., XX.X mCi or XX. X mg) and route of administration (e.g., intravenous, oral, inhaled, subdermal) reported? | Yes ☐  No ☐ |

| 5. Is the radiopharmaceutical dose within the range published in current professional society guidelines? | Yes ☐  No ☐ |

| 6. Does the report contain the date the procedure was performed? | Yes ☐  No ☐ |

| 7. Is the report signed by the interpreting physician and is the date the report was finalized included in the report? | Yes ☐  No ☐ |

| 8. Was the report finalized within two working days? | Yes ☐  No ☐ |

Could the report completeness and timeliness of this case have been improved? Yes ☐  No ☐

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