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for sonographers

Monday, 23 April 2018

Dr Lance Lawler
President
Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Radiologists
Level 9, 51 Druitt Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Cc: fcr@ranzcr.com

Dear Dr Lawler,

Thank you for inviting our comment to the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Radiologists' position statement covering electronic referrals *Building Radiology eReferral: Safety, Security and Patient Choice*.

There is very real potential to improving patient care and access to services through the introduction of electronic referrals (eReferral) in clinical radiology. The Australasian Sonographers Association (ASA) is pleased to support the ten broad principles in relation to eReferrals for and delivery of clinical radiology services, described in this statement from the College.

We also agree with the fourteen considerations described in this statement that need to be applied to any adoption of an electronic referrals (eReferral) system in radiology. They are a good foundation for considering any potential move to eReferral for clinical radiology services.

The statement also raises some important parallel issues to do with radiology referrals that need to be addressed both in the context of eReferrals and generally. The ASA supports the Colleges position of the need to resolve these, particularly the need for clinical radiologists to have greater latitude to substitute a more appropriate radiology modality for that initially requested, in consultation with the referring clinician.

Please let me know if there is anything further the ASA can do to support this work. I look forward to reading the final position statement from the college.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Jennifer Alphonse'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Dr Jennifer Alphonse, PhD
President – the Australasian Sonographers Association