POLICY ON:
Interpretation of Outside Imaging Studies

The following is the current policy regarding the storage and interpretation of outside imaging studies.

Request for Interpretation of Outside Imaging Studies:

To obtain a formal interpretation of an outside imaging study, a request must be submitted, along with the CD, to the film management area in the Department of Radiology. The request for interpretation must include the specific studies that are to be formally interpreted, the name of the submitting physician, his/her physician number and a brief clinical history. The request should also include whether or not the CD needs to be returned to the requestor. If the CD needs to be returned, a phone or pager number of the requestor is required. The CDs will be processed by film management and loaded onto the UNC PACS system for interpretation and permanent storage. The radiology reports will be sent to WEB CIS. Imaging studies older than 3 months will not be formally interpreted unless approved by an Attending Radiologist.

Storage of Outside Imaging Studies for Comparison Purposes Only:

Outside imaging studies loaded into the PACS for comparison purposes only are permitted in select circumstances. A current UNC exam must have already been performed, or have been schedule to be performed, prior to loading the comparison study. A request clearly indicating “Comparison Study” that specifically identifies the studies to be loaded must accompany the CD that will be submitted to Film Management. These studies will be loaded into the UNC PACS system, but not interpreted by UNC Department of Radiology personnel. The comparison studies will be clearly marked as “Outside Study/Comparison.” Exceptions to the above guidelines will be accommodated if approved by an Attending Radiologist.

The most updated version of this policy will appear on the UNC Radiology web site.

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