


Q-Pulse Database	DIAIMA	
Document Number	NM-GGC-GUID-020	
Document Title	Patient Escort Information	

### Nuclear Medicine / PET Patient Escort Information

When a patient is referred for a diagnostic Nuclear Medicine / PET procedure to any one of the departments within NHSGGC, there are a number of things to consider. This procedure often takes a number of hours, in addition to the time required for transfer to and from the ward / hospital. The department will be able to give you specific details of the times involved. The patient must be appropriately accompanied for this procedure, noting that the Nuclear Medicine / PET department is a service delivered by Healthcare Sciences staff and therefore does not have nursing staff and, does not generally have medical staff within the department.

Transferring patients has inherent risks. An assessment of the level of escort required must be completed by the referring team before the patient leaves the clinical area. As the patient is scheduled to be away from the clinical area for a long period of time, then the Registered Nurse/Midwife and medical staff responsible for the patient must assess the escort needs including:

- Medication and its administration during the period away from the ward / care facility (NB think Time Critical medicines)
- nursing care needs (note above re Nuclear Medicine / PET department nursing /medical staff)
- patients may be asked to fast for their scan which may increase the risk to the patient e.g. diabetic
- is a Registered Nurse indicated or is another HCW escort suitable?
- escorts must not be pregnant
- patients with incontinence issues must come with suitable protection (please discuss with department)
- cognitive impairment, capacity or a communication problem
- any patient who is unable to identify themselves must have an escort. The Ionising Radiation (Medical Exposure) Regulations (IR(ME)R) requires a patient to be identified by themselves or by a healthcare worker.
- allergies and / or dietary requirements
- patients with Insulin Dependent Diabetes Mellitus (IDDM)
- a Registered Midwife escort is required for IP pregnant patients transferred to another hospital for an acute VQ procedure
- potential moving & handling risks

Owner	Author	Revision	Active Date	Review Date	Page
Bradnam, Michael	Bolster, Alison	1	19/06/2024	19/06/2027	1 of 1
This document is uncontrolled when printed. Check Revision BEFORE use!					