17, Triq Edgar Ferro, Pietà MSD07 - Malta

Tel: (+356) 21 247 677 • Fax: (+356) 21 232 909 Email: ohsa@gov.mt 
Website: www.ohsa.org.mt



OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH & SAFETY AUTHORITY

17, Edgar Ferro Street, Pietà MSD07 - Malta Tel: (+356) 21 247 677 • Fax: (+356) 21 232 909 Email: ohsa@gov.mt • Website: www.ohsa.org.mt

## Media Release

## **Consultation Process on Prescribed Rules to Ionising Radiation Medical Exposure Regulations**

03.06.08

The Radiation Protection Board is launching a consultation process on a set of prescribed rules to the Ionising Radiation Medical Exposure Regulations (Legal Notice 472 of 2004). The proposed prescribed rules will be legally binding and were prepared in consultation with the Superintendent of Public Health.

The prescribed rules include various interpretations of individual regulations of the said legal notice, including conditions justifying medical exposures, optimization and written instructions and information.

When dealing with equipment used in connection with medical exposures, the prescribed rules make reference to the duties of the employer emanating from various other radiation protection and medical devices legal regulations.

The procedure for putting equipment into clinical use is explained in these prescribed rules. This covers the notification to the Board, the selection of the equipment to be used as well as the installation and acceptance tests, quality control of the equipment and record keeping, amongst others.

The document also includes requirements for testing of equipment which is currently in clinical use. The document also mentions how to prevent and detect exposures which are greater than intended.

The draft rules cover in detail the various duties of employers, referrers (such as dentists, medical doctors, physiotherapists and chiropractors), practitioners and operators while offering guidance to employers on training, qualifications and experience required by the other parties concerned.

The criteria and role of medical physics experts is also explained including fields such as radiotherapy, nuclear medicine and diagnostic radiology (including dentistry). There is also mention of continuing professional development and the approval and re-approval processes.

Any person or entity who wishes to make any comments on the proposed prescribed rules is invited to do so by contacting the Radiation Protection Board: OHSA Building, 17 Edgar Ferro Street, Pieta' PTA 1533 or by email at ohsa.rpb@gov.mt

A copy of the legislation together with the proposed prescribed rules can be downloaded from the OHSA's website: www.ohsa.org.mt

The deadline for submissions is 8 September 2008.