

## Standard Operating Procedure for Urgent Access Pathway for GP-referred Chest X-rays

### Document Control:

<b>For Use In:</b>	Radiology		
	Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital		
<b>Search Keywords</b>	RADIOLOGYGENERAL, Radiology, CXR, Chest X-ray, urgent, GPpreferred		
<b>Document Author:</b>	General Radiography Lead		
<b>Document Owner:</b>	General Radiography, Radiology		
<b>Approved By:</b>	Nursing, Midwifery and Clinical Professionals Forum		
<b>Ratified By:</b>	Nursing Midwifery and Clinical Professionals Board		
<b>Approval Date:</b>	03/2024	<b>Date to be reviewed by:</b> This document remains current after this date but will be under review	03/2027
<b>Implementation Date:</b>			
<b>Reference Number:</b>	New document (NEW094)		

### Version History:

Version	Date	Author	Reason/Change
V1.0	Nov 2022	General Radiography Lead	To originate document
V2.0	March 2024	General Radiography Lead	No changes

### Previous Titles for this Document:

Previous Title/Amalgamated Titles	Date Revised
None	Not applicable

### Distribution Control

Printed copies of this document should be considered out of date. The most up to date version is available from the Trust Intranet.

# **Standard Operating Procedure for Urgent Access Pathway for GP-referred Chest X-rays**

## **Consultation**

The following were consulted during the development of this document:

Chief of Imaging

Lead Chest Radiologist

Deputy General Radiography Leads

Deputy IT manager (Radiology)

ED Consultant and Matron

Respiratory Consultant team

Deputy Chief Operating Officer

Associate Medical Director, Primary Care Liaison & System Integration Clinical Director

## **Monitoring and Review of Procedural Document**

The document owner is responsible for monitoring and reviewing the effectiveness of this Procedural Document. This review is continuous however as a minimum will be achieved at the point this procedural document requires a review e.g. changes in legislation, findings from incidents or document expiry.

## **Relationship of this document to other procedural documents**

This document is a standard operating procedure applicable to NNUH.

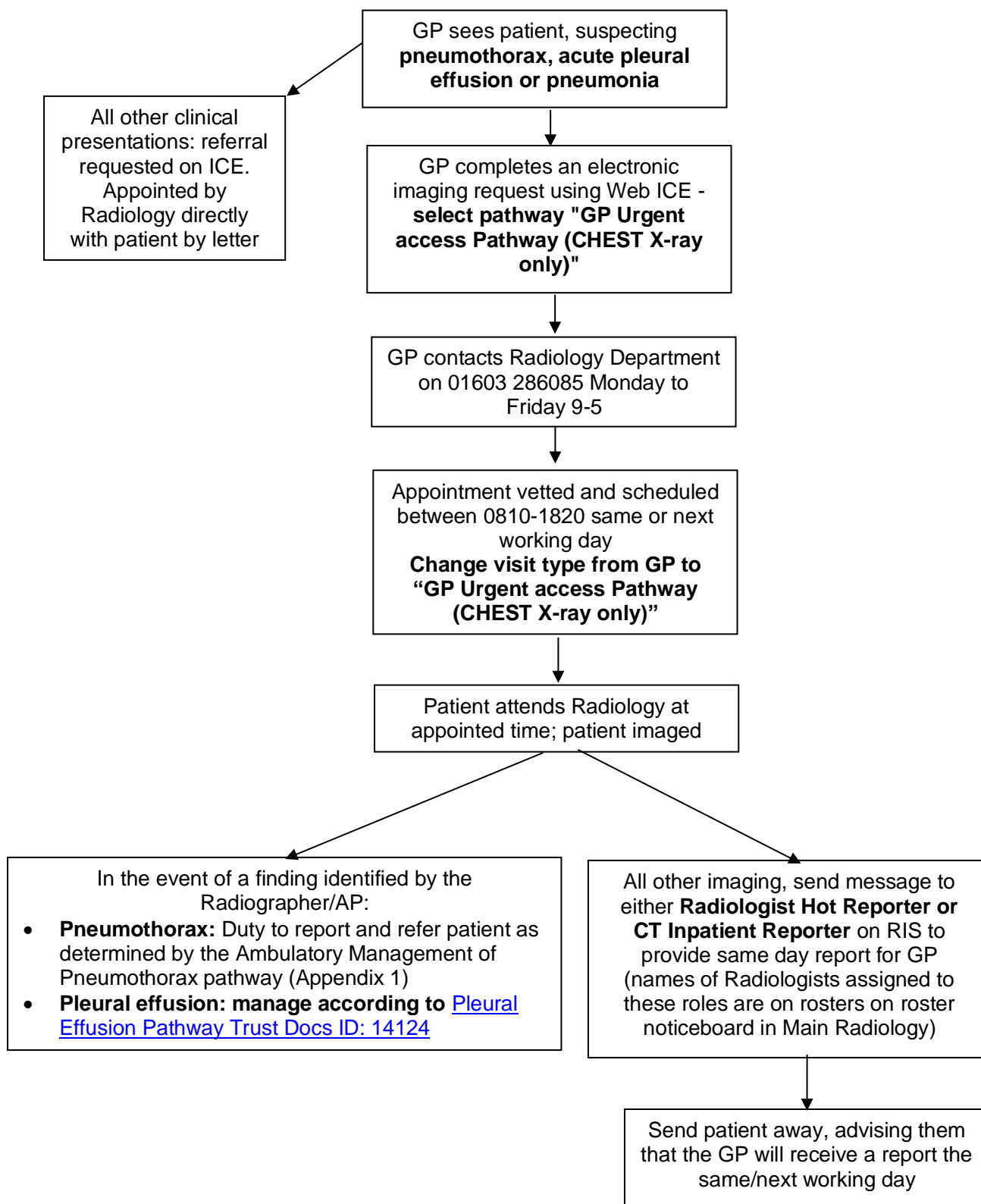
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## Quick reference



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## 1. Introduction

### 1.1. Rationale

Provision of a fast track pathway for GP-referred CXR to Radiology is essential to ensure quick imaging and diagnosis of patients with acute presentations such as suspected pneumothorax and suspected acute pleural effusion, in order to avoid admissions to ED and the Trust.

### 1.2. Objective

To provide a fast track pathway for same working day CXR imaging for acute presentations at Norfolk and Norwich. This SOP excludes Cromer Hospital.

### 1.3. Scope

GP-referred examinations for CXR, with the following clinical suspicions:

- Suspected pneumothorax
- Suspected acute pleural effusion
- Suspected pneumonia

### 1.4. Glossary

The following terms and abbreviations have been used within this document:

Term	Definition
ED	Emergency Department
CXR	Chest X-ray

## 2. Responsibilities

**General Practitioners** – refer patients for CXR, ensuring adequate and appropriate clinical information is included to enable the Radiographer to justify the request in line with the scope of this protocol and general IR(ME)R principles. Call Radiology to book same/next working day appointment.

**Deputy Lead Radiographers and Radiographer Coordinators** – take calls from patients and allocate same calendar day/next calendar day appointments.

**Radiographers** – image patients, send RIS message for reporting to the Hot Reporter Radiologist, CT IP reporting Consultant or CXR Reporting Radiographer. Refer any patients requiring immediate onward management in accordance with the Quick Reference section.

## 3. Processes to be followed

Processes should be followed as per the Quick Reference section on Page 4.

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## 4. Monitoring Compliance

Compliance with the process will be monitored through the following:

Key elements	Process for Monitoring	By Whom (Individual / group /committee)	Responsible Governance Committee /dept	Frequency of monitoring
Audit of request to acquisition time, and request to report time	Monthly audits via Power BI	General Radiography Lead	Radiology Clinical Governance	Monthly

The audit results are to be discussed at Radiology governance meetings to review the results and recommendations for further action.

## 5. Appendices

Appendix 1: Ambulatory Management of pneumothorax.

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## 6. Equality Impact Assessment (EIA)

<b>Type of function or policy</b>	New
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<b>Division</b>	DCSS	<b>Department</b>	Radiology
<b>Name of person completing form</b>	Emma Key-Yeomans	<b>Date</b>	27.03.24

Equality Area	Potential Negative Impact	Impact Positive Impact	Which groups are affected	Full Impact Assessment Required YES/NO
Race			None	No
Pregnancy & Maternity			None	No
Disability			None	No
Religion and beliefs			None	No
Sex			None	No
Gender reassignment			None	No
Sexual Orientation			None	No
Age			None	No
Marriage & Civil Partnership			None	No
<b>EDS2 – How does this change impact the Equality and Diversity Strategic plan (contact HR or see EDS2 plan)?</b>				

- A full assessment will only be required if: The impact is potentially discriminatory under the general equality duty
- Any groups of patients/staff/visitors or communities could be potentially disadvantaged by the policy or function/service
- The policy or function/service is assessed to be of high significance

**IF IN DOUBT A FULL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FORM IS REQUIRED**

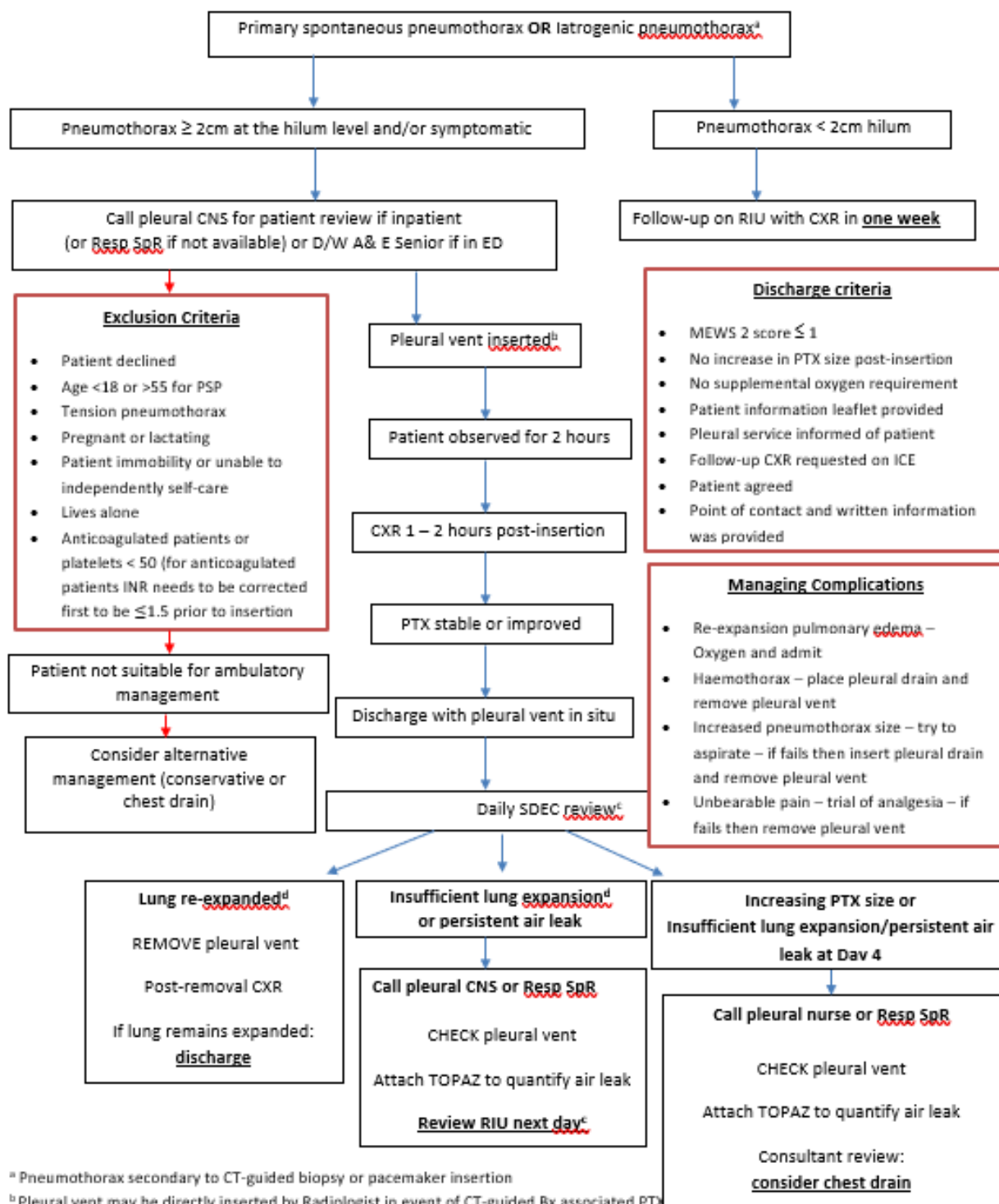
The review of the existing policy re-affirms the rights of all groups and clarifies the individual, managerial and organisational responsibilities in line with statutory and best practice guidance.

### Appendix 1:

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## Ambulatory management of pneumothorax

Pleural CNS DECT: 7898 ~~Resp SpR~~ DECT: 6061, SDEC DECT 7767 Email: pleuralservice@nnuh.nhs.uk



<sup>a</sup> Pneumothorax secondary to CT-guided biopsy or pacemaker insertion

<sup>b</sup> Pleural vent may be directly inserted by Radiologist in event of CT-guided ~~by~~ associated PTX

<sup>c</sup> One review over weekend may suffice if clinically stable

<sup>d</sup> Insufficient re-expansion > 1cm air rim



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