

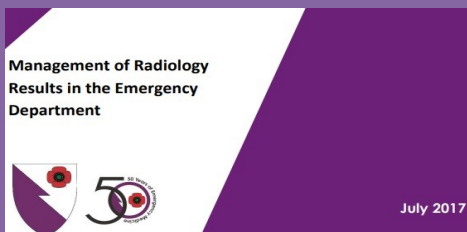
Safety Newsflash: Abnormal Results



'Who is following up abnormal results?'

- **Coroner's Report:** A patient presented to the ED with an episode of disturbed speech. A CT head showed some suspicious lesions.
- The patient declined admission but agreed to investigations as an outpatient.
- The outpatient investigations were not booked and the patient died 3 weeks later.
- Although the lack of further investigations did not contribute to the death, the Coroner raised concerns about follow up arrangements for patients who are discharged from the ED but need urgent follow up.

To see the guidelines, click the two RCEM images



- It is important that actions are taken and patients get the follow up that they need.
- The ordering clinician is ultimately responsible for the patient and resulting actions (GMC).



- It is important to have clear and robust systems for arranging follow up investigations and appointments.

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