



CHRISTCHURCH RADIOLOGY GROUP

Privacy, Security and Audit at CRG

CRG only allows authorised people to access its information systems. These hold all the medical images, radiologists' reports and other sensitive data related to patients.

In order to become authorised, referrers and other medical professionals have to apply to CRG, sign and comply with our Privacy and Security Agreement, and agree to our auditing their access to patient records. They are only allowed to look at patient information when it is needed for their own provision of health services to that patient.

Who can look at your information?

People who are eligible to apply for access include CRG staff, referrers of patients to CRG, other medical practitioners including specialists, and other health professionals including physios, chiropractors, podiatrists, nurses and dentists.

Once they have access, these people are able to search for and find any patient in our system, view their images, and look at the radiologists' reports.

Can you opt out and ask for a higher level of privacy?

Yes, you can. Patients are able to "opt out" of this system on a per examination basis, such that only CRG staff will be able to view the data about that examination.

It should be appreciated however, that restricting access in this way may have unintended and detrimental consequences should access to images and reports be needed in an emergency, or outside normal hours. To restore standard access will require the services of IT staff who may not always be available at those times.

So our recommendation is that you accept our normal privacy and security arrangements.

Audit: Are checks being made?

CRG conducts regular audits of access to its information systems. Patients are also able to request information from us as to who has accessed their records. We will endeavour to provide that information if asked, but there may be a limit as to how far back we can search, without having to pass on any external costs.

If you have had an examination at CRG and you either want us to restrict access to your medical information, or you want an audit done of who has looked at your records, please inform our office staff.

Tony Young
Managing Radiologist
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