

# Advice for Chief Executives

## Radiation Incidents which require a Reportable Incident Brief

### How to use this advice

This advice supplements the NSW Health Incident Management Policy ([PD2020 047](#)). It outlines a subset of radiation incidents which require a Reportable Incident Brief (RIB).

### Background

The Clinical Excellence Commission reviewed the RIB requirement in the Incident Management Policy for “Radiation incidents reportable to the NSW Environmental Protection Authority under the Radiation Control Act 1990 and the Radiation Control Regulation 2013”.

The Clinical Excellence Commission consulted with radiation experts and the Ministry of Health to define a subset of radiation incidents for escalation via RIB to the Ministry of Health.

### Radiation Incidents which require a RIB

- A patient receives an unplanned effective dose of 10 millisieverts (mSv) or greater
- Receipt of a NSW Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) Infringement
- Receipt of a NSW EPA Improvement Notice
- A designated radiation worker receives an effective dose exceeding 20 mSv in one year
- Any person exceeds the dose limits listed in Schedule 5 of the Radiation Control Regulation. (<https://www.legislation.nsw.gov.au/view/html/inforce/current/sl-2013-0052#sec.3>)
- A person requires medical attention due to contamination
- A contamination event occurs with potential for media interest and/or significant interruption to service delivery.

### What about radiation incidents involving patient death, serious harm, potential significant risk or affecting multiple patients?

Such incidents are incorporated in the policy into clinical incidents of any type which meet these criteria. Please refer to [PD2020 047](#) Section 3 Reportable Incident Brief (RIB).

### Further information

For **questions**, please contact the Clinical Excellence Commission Patient Safety Directorate at: [CEC-PatientSafety@health.nsw.gov.au](mailto:CEC-PatientSafety@health.nsw.gov.au)

Incident Management Policy **resources** are available on the Clinical Excellence Commission website at: <https://www.cec.health.nsw.gov.au/Review-incidents/incident-management-policy-resources>