

Introduction

The Centre for Translational Radiographic Research (CTRR), within the Translational Imaging Research Facility (TIRF), is a platform for the development and application of state-of-the-art radiographic imaging equipment. Operating as a close collaboration between imaging scientists, physicians, and industry partners, the Centre for Translational Radiographic Research bridges the gap between development of novel technology and routine clinical application. Developments within the Centre for Translation Radiographic Research enhance the outcomes of patients with neurological, cardiac, pulmonary, oncological, and musculoskeletal diseases. The facility resources are available to peer-reviewed grant funded scientific collaborators with appropriate Research Ethics Board (REB) protocols in place.

Research involving ionizing radiation presents unique hazards to both research subjects and individuals working within and around radiographic imaging systems. Consequently, the potential for serious personal injury is present due the possibility of ionizing radiation exposure. The radiation in the CTRR is only present during an x-ray exposure. It is important that all those entering the facility be aware of the possibility of exposure to x-rays, since we cannot otherwise detect it (i.e. x-rays cannot be seen or felt). There are also electrical safety risks associated with the use of any radiographic research facility.

To address these safety risks, the following SOPs outline the levels of facility access, proper equipment training/operation, general safety procedures, proper handling of equipment, and emergency situations. Administrative issues are also addressed, such as, scheduling, billing, data handling, protocol development and ethics submissions. These SOPs have been specifically designed and reviewed on an annual basis to ensure that all activities in the CTRR comply with all applicable guidelines and regulations.