

Trainee & Program Details

Training Program
Nuclear Medicine 2025

Training Program Phase *
Specialty Foundation

Date of Observation *
04/04/2025

Observation Capture Details

Observation Capture Type *
Consultation with patient referred for radioiodine therapy

Summary of Activity *
I led an initial consultation for a 45 year old female referred for Graves' disease. The goals and aims of radioiodine therapy were discussed including the radiation safety precautions, potential outcomes and follow-up plans.

Complexity *
High

Primary Learning Goal *
07. Communication

Learning Goal Components

Select the learning goal components observed during the Observation Capture.

Name	Observed	
identify appropriate contexts to include family, carers, and/or other team members when communicating with patients	Yes	No
adopt a patient-centred perspective, including adjusting for language skills, cognition, and disabilities	Yes	No
select and use appropriate technologies and communication strategies	Yes	No
negotiate a mutually agreed management plan	Yes	No
verify patients', family members' or carers' understanding of information conveyed	Yes	No
develop and implement clear plans and processes agreed upon in the context of multidisciplinary patient care, including explicit lines of responsibility and reporting	Yes	No
ensure conversations and resultant plans are appropriately documented.	Yes	No

Trainee Reflection

The below section is to be filled in by the **Trainee**

What did you do well? *
I was able to gauge the patient's understanding of the procedure and the goals of achieving hypothyroidism in the context of her difficult-to-control Graves' disease. I successfully identified factors important for her radiation safety, including her work and home situation, and informed her about the periods of isolation and necessary precautions. I also warned her of the risks to pregnancy and emphasized the importance of avoiding pregnancy and breastfeeding in the six months following her treatment.

What could you improve next time? *
I could improve by more clearly explaining the specific differences in radiation safety precautions required for the patient versus their carers, particularly concerning children under 5 years old, and ensuring this explanation is fully aligned with the relevant ARPANSA guidelines. This would involve detailing why the precautions differ (e.g., lower dose limits for carers, especially children, and the varying routes of potential exposure) and providing concrete examples of how to implement these different measures in practice.

Assessor Feedback

The below section is to be filled in by the **Assessor**

How much supervision did the trainee require during this activity?
2 – I was acting with direct supervision

What did the trainee do well? *
Megan was articulate and effectively used open-ended questions to explore the patient's understanding of the goals and outcomes of radioiodine therapy. She also clearly articulated the radiation safety precautions, tailoring them thoughtfully to the patient's specific home and work situation.

What could the trainee improve upon to improve their performance? *
Next time, Megan could improve by addressing patient confusion more directly, particularly regarding discrepancies in isolation recommendations. For example, the patient was confused about needing to isolate from their 6-year-old child while still being able to assist their elderly mother with daily living activities. Clarifying the rationale behind differing precautions for various individuals (e.g., children versus adults) would enhance patient understanding and compliance.