



CLINICAL PRACTICE GUIDELINE

Guideline coverage includes NICU KEMH, NICU PMH and NETS WA

Neuroimaging for the Preterm Infant

This document should be read in conjunction with the [Disclaimer](#)

Cranial Ultrasound

Infants born at < 33/52 gestation and/or < 1501 grams have routine cranial ultrasound scans at:

- Day 1
- Day 7
- Day 28
- A further head scan may be required prior to discharge for extremely preterm infants.

MRI:

An MRI should be performed at term equivalent (>38 weeks) for all babies born at <28 weeks with parental consent.

If Discharge or Transfer Planned Before all Head Scans have been Performed then:

- Discuss with consultant whether to bring to scan forward, or
- Metropolitan and country infants are to have an outpatient appointment made to coincide with follow-up and/or other appointments.
- Ideally MRI scans should be performed as inpatients.
- Ensure any scans that have been carried out are reviewed prior to discharge or transfer.
- Ensure parents are aware of all results/appointments.

Document owner:	Neonatal Coordinating Group		
Author / Reviewer:	Neonatal Coordinating Group		
Date first issued:	December 2015		
Last reviewed:	1 st December 2015	Next review date:	1 st December 2018
Endorsed by:	Neonatal Coordinating Group	Date endorsed:	December 2015
Standards Applicable:	NSQHS Standards: 1 Governance		

**Printed or personally saved electronic copies of this document are considered uncontrolled.
Access the current version from the WNHS website.**