

## Dispensing Radiopharmaceuticals

Each activity of radiopharmaceuticals prepared for the patient **must be measured** and **recorded**. The prepared activity is withdrawn for each patient and the deviation must be within 10% of the required activity at the specified injection time. Once the patient's injection is prepared, the needle must be replaced with a new needle of the appropriate gauge, and the air from the syringe must be expelled. When expelling the air, ensure that the needle is capped (to avoid possible contamination of the LAF). When changing the needle, withdraw the plunger sufficiently to pull all liquid from the syringe tip. If, at any time, there is a droplet of liquid visible in the needle cap, replace the needle and cap.

Each patient's injection must be labelled with an appropriate label detailing the patient name (dose number/patient name), scan type, activity to be administered, date and time of injection.

Used radioactive vials and syringes should be disposed of in a radioactive waste disposal container.

Laboratories used for work with unsealed sources should be provided with equipment to minimize the external exposure of the worker and to deal with radioactive spill. This equipment may need to include:

- Tools for remote handling of sources (forceps, tongs)
- Shielded containers for the radionuclides in use
- Syringe shields
- Lead barrier with lead glass window
- Area monitor with alarm
- Contamination monitor
- Carrying containers for moving radionuclides
- Equipment and materials to deal with spills (emergency kit)

**Double check of radiopharmaceuticals is required before they are used for administration.**