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Background

- Academic Medical Center:
  - Rhode Island Hospital
  - Miriam Hospital
  - Hasbro Children’s Hospital
  - Level 1 Trauma Center
  - Over 550,000 imaging studies per year

- Common Problems
  1. Addressing incidental findings
  2. Aiding efficient patient throughput
Background

- There are multiple modality & disease specific reporting systems
Background

- We piloted, and then clinically incorporated a report categorization system for all diagnostic studies (excluding breast imaging)

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Pilot study of a new comprehensive radiology report categorization (RADCAT) system in the emergency department

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Background

RADCAT Designations

• RADCAT 1: Normal Result
• RADCAT 2: Routine Result
• RADCAT 3: Result with recommendation for non-urgent follow-up
• RADCAT 4: Priority Result
• RADCAT 5: Critical Result
Purpose

Evaluate radiologist, emergency clinician, and inpatient/outpatient provider experience with implementation of our system-wide global radiology report categorization (RADCAT) system after 6-12 months of adoption.
Materials / Methods

The RADCAT system was universally adopted throughout our practice across several hospitals within our health system in October 2017, with full incorporation into the electronic medical record using discrete data elements for each RADCAT grade.

Starting 6 months after implementation, we conducted a series of surveys of clinicians in the emergency department, inpatient and outpatient providers, and radiologists, in order to determine the perceived value to the system. We present select results from questions related to the overall system.
RESULTS

• During the first year of use, >570,000 reports were categorized using the RADCAT system.

• Survey response rates:
  ED Providers - 38% (81/211)
  IP/OP providers - 4% (87/2296)
  Radiologists - 57% (60/106)
The RADCAT grading system is intuitive and easy to understand.
The RADCAT grading system appropriately differentiates between urgent and non-urgent findings.
The RADCAT system overall improves patient care.
The RADCAT system reflects well on the Department of Radiology commitment to quality patient care and safety.
RADCAT-3 findings in the after-visit summary increases my efficiency

RADCAT-3 findings in the after-visit summary helps to protect providers from liability
Conclusions

• The RADCAT system is an efficient method for “snap-shot” communication of report urgency between radiologists and clinicians the EMR

• The RADCAT system is perceived by radiologists and clinicians as valuable for quality patient care and safety