

Publication	Health Service Journal online
Date of article	Friday 24 th August 2012
Reporter	Shaun Lintern
Headline	X-ray mistakes investigated at Midlands hospital
First paragraph/s of article	<p>PERFORMANCE: A baby and an adult patient were wrongly subjected to an x-ray by hospital staff it has emerged after a whistleblower came forward.</p> <p>A separate female patient also had the wrong part of her body scanned in an MRI machine.</p> <p>The Dudley Group Foundation Trust confirmed to HSJ all three incidents had happened at its Russells Hall Hospital in Dudley, West Midlands in July as a result of what the trust said was human error.</p>
Paragraph/s relating to The Dudley Group	NA
Press enquiry	<p>The reporter has read an article in a local newspaper regarding a whistleblower saying that two patient X-rays taken were wrong because the department are at least five staff down.</p> <p>Questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Is it true? Did these incidents happen? 2. What is the situation at the moment? 3. Does the Trust accept there is a problem? 4. Can you confirm five members of staff down? 5. Can I get confirmation of the investigation?
Also issued to:	NA
Trust response	
<p>Regrettably these errors have occurred at Russells Hall Hospital as a result of human error, despite rigorous preventative processes in place.</p> <p>We take such incidents very seriously and, as you would expect, investigations are underway. We can confirm that these errors were correctly reported by staff which is important to ensure a culture of openness and learning.</p> <p>Staffing levels remain static in the Radiology Department and we are fortunate to have committed and professional staff. While we do currently have five radiographer vacancies, just one is a due to gap in staffing, the remainder are due to a review of working practices to improve our services.</p>	