**CONFERENCE PAPER**

REJOICE BANDA

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**INTRODUCTION**

The possession of a body of knowledge added to by meticulous research has been long recognized as an essential componect of professional identity. As a graduate radio technologist i have noticed that radiography has been a consumer rather than a producer of research as it has a very short research track record.

**ABSTRACT**

In the past few decades radiography has experienced a wealth of changes,involving the teaching site,learning methods,curriculum,professional status,educational funding and public expectations. Consequently earch this period witnessed the transition of radiography from a mainly hospital linked to mainly university linked degree.

Given the educational,technological and social advancements the engagement of radiographers in research is emphasized as a priority that will bring the profession forward by learning recent advances in medical imaging technology which will later on help to maintain high standards of patient care.

Research in radiography is a requirement, as by definition professions are expected to contribute to the body of knowledge necessary for a profession to progress. Funding ,ethical considerations ,mentorship, proficiency in research methodology,commitment and ability to work in a multi disciplinary team are just a few of the requirements for high quality radiography research.e to

**RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

Radiography has undergone enormous changes ,both educationally and professionally.

An incentive to research promotion in radiography was provided by the research assessment exercise (RAE) that took place in 1996 and 2001. After nearly a decade of established graduate education it was time for the radiography departments in the uk to submit their research output for a peer review process and allow exposure to external security. Along with the changes in education ,training and

university funding there have also been changes within the framework in which radiographers have been required to oprerate and that alone stressed the importance of research culture in the profession.

**RESEARCH DEMYSTIFIED**

Educational, professional and social changes in the world of radiography provided a vwealth of incentives to research awareness and research activity but what is research?

Research can be defined as an original investigation undertaken in order to gain knowledge and understanding based on research assessment exercise definition .

Irrespective of research methodology employed,the radiographic domain is wide open for researchers to explore different areas of its constituent elements .

**CONCLUSSION**

Having reviewed the recent developments in radiography that underline the importance of research in the profession it is now evident that research should not be viewed merely as an academic exercise or a course requirement but it should be seen as a real engine for change and innovation.

Research is not a simple process as it comes with many responsibilities and commitment required by all health care practitioners in order to become research aware, research active or research leaders by providing the best evidence and knowledge based care for patients.

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