

To: Whom it may concern

8<sup>th</sup> October 2009

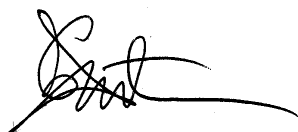
**Re: Tariffs for Cardiovascular Magnetic Resonance (CMR)**

I am writing to you about CMR, which is an innovative medical imaging technology. In appropriate circumstances, it offers the cardiac patient and the NHS a high quality, innovative diagnostic test, which has the potential to increase productivity within the NHS and prevent unnecessary interventions.

At the current time, CMR is not well coded and is not unbundled like some other low volume imaging procedures. There is work in progress by BSCMR (British Society of Cardiovascular Magnetic Resonance) and the BSCI (British Society of Cardiovascular Imaging) on obtaining a good quality dataset to see how best to develop a national CMR tariff.

In the interim, BSCMR and BSCI have, in collaboration, developed the following proposed codes and suggested tariffs for CMR. Local NHS commissioners may find the document, helpful in local tariff negotiations as these are an excellent starting point and I can recommend them to you for this purpose.

Yours sincerely



**Dr Erika Denton**

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