

2015 X-Ray Protocol

Radiation safety protocol as defined by **Minnesota Administrative Rules- CHAPTER 4732. Ionizing Radiation** shall always be adhered to during the MOM event. Only people previously trained in the use of dental x-ray equipment shall be operators during the event. This does not apply to those assisting the operators. Radiologic Technologists shall be limited to using extra-oral equipment only.

- 1) *Lead lined aprons and thyroid collars shall be used for:***
 - a) Pregnant women
 - b) Anyone with a history of a thyroid disorder
 - c) Anyone with a history of head and neck radiation
 - d) Patients that request them

- 2) *At all times the operator and observers shall be a minimum of six feet from the x-ray source during exposure.*** This especially applies to Panoramic or extra-oral bite-wings where the source moves during exposure.

- 3) *The use of appropriate sensor holders and positioners should ensure that the operator does not hold the sensor during exposure.***

- 4) *Panoramic or intraoral images will be taken based on the recommendations of dental triage modified by the procedure(s) the patient is scheduled to have done.***
 - Multiple extractions in more than one quadrant shall require a Panoramic film
 - Single extractions or extractions in only one quadrant can be imaged with PAs of that area
 - Teeth obviously having large decay present require a PA to determine restorability
 - Teeth that encountered a pulpal exposure or excessive decay during a restorative procedure require a PA for extraction or to determine if endo is indicated
 - Bitewings extra or intra-oral, will be taken on a case-by-case basis as requested by Triage.

- 5) *Proper infection control procedures as recommended by the CDC and the MDA shall adhere to for all patients.***

- 6) *When x-ray is complete:***
 - a) Please print the x-ray and write the patients name and birthdate on the x-ray print in black sharpie.
 - b) Staple the x-ray to the registration form and enter the type and number of films into the data entry computer located in the x-ray department.
 - c) All x-rays are to be recorded on the patient record in **BLUE** pen.