

RADIATION PROTECTION STANDARDS

- Adhere to the cardinal rules of radiation protection:
 - Minimize time of exposure to ionizing radiation;
 - Maximize distance from source of ionizing radiation; and
 - Utilize shielding.
- Practice ALARA at all times:
 - Use optimal exposure factors;
 - Collimate to expose only necessary anatomy; and
 - Utilize shielding.
- Wear your radiation dosimeter at all times when working around x-rays. When you wear a lead apron, wear the dosimeter at the collar outside of the lead apron. Otherwise, wear the dosimeter anywhere on your torso.
- Remain completely within the shielded control booth during exposures, with the exception of fluoroscopic, surgical, or portable procedures.
- During exposures, you must wear a lead apron of at least 0.25 mm lead-equivalence during fluoroscopic, surgical, or portable procedures if not standing behind a lead-lined door or mobile shield.
 - You must wear a lead apron when taking portables. (Each portable unit should have available two lead aprons.)
- During exposures, shield all nearby parents, holders, technologists, and patients if they are not behind a lead barrier.
- Maintain visual contact with the patient during exposures.
- Use positioning sponges and immobilization devices to prevent patient motion.
- Exposure indicators should fall within the acceptable range based on the equipment. However, images need not be rejected based solely on the exposure indicator.
- Avoid exposing the hands and fingers of holders unless the hands and fingers are protected with lead gloves no less than 0.5 mm lead equivalent.