

**Information Notice Number 30
(September 2007)**

For Florida Radiation Machine Registrants

Department of Health, Bureau of Radiation Control

USE OF HAND HELD INTRAORAL UNITS

Recent changes in Chapter 64E-5, Florida Administrative Code (FAC) allow the use of hand-held intraoral units. The following requirements must be kept in mind when using these radiation machines.

- Hand-held intraoral units use a moveable shield near the end of the cone to reduce unnecessary exposure to the operator from scattered radiation. This shield must not be removed and its usage must be fully understood to be effective. Because of this, all operators must complete machine-specific training before using a hand-held unit. This training must be provided by the manufacturer. Records of this training must be maintained by the registrant for inspection. The training may be in any format including hands-on training by a manufacturer's representative, video or DVD instruction, or a training manual. There must be a comprehensive test to document the operator's understanding of the material.
- Operators must properly wear dose monitoring devices (dosimeters) when using hand-held intraoral units. All dose monitoring devices must be processed by laboratories accredited by the National Voluntary Laboratory Accreditation Program (NVLAP).
- Hand-held machine operators must also comply with the requirements of the Florida Board of Dentistry for personnel who perform dental radiography. Questions about these requirements should be directed to the Board.
- Radiation machines must be registered with the Bureau of Radiation Control within thirty days of installation by a registered vendor. Radiation machines cannot be operated until they are registered.
- Newly registered machines will be inspected on the same schedule as the other registered machines at the registrant's facility. If the facility is new, the machines will be inspected during the first calendar quarter following the registration date.
- X-rays of humans must be authorized by a Florida-licensed practitioner of the healing arts. X-rays of humans must be for healing arts purposes. Exposures to humans for training, demonstration, or other purposes are prohibited.
- Advertising free x-rays is prohibited unless the advertisement clearly states a determination of need will be made before the x-rays are taken.
- Federal manufacturing requirements, regulations from other states, and statements by manufacturers do not exempt radiation machines registrants or users from the registration, performance, and safety requirements specified by Chapter 64E-5, FAC.

If you have questions or need guidance about Chapter 64E-5 or hand-held machines, please contact:

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