

**Information Notice Number 27  
(December 2003)**

**For Florida Radiation Machine Registrants**

**Department of Health, Bureau of Radiation Control**

**TYPICAL DOSIMETRY REQUIREMENTS FOR DENTAL REGISTRANTS**

Radiation exposure monitoring is not required at a typical dental facility if the operators are located in a safe exposure position as required by our regulations. Operators in these positions are not in a radiation area and are not likely to receive measurable amounts of radiation exposure.

Florida's administrative rules require dosimetry for all personnel who have a possibility of receiving greater than 10% of the maximum allowable occupational dose (500 mrem) in a calendar year. Florida's rules are more restrictive than the U.S. Department of Labor, Occupational Safety and Health Administration requirements. OSHA requires dosimetry for all individuals likely to receive 25% of 5 rem (1250 mrem.) The Bureau's policy of not requiring exposure monitoring is based on the results of our inspection data and dosimetry records collected by the numerous registrants who have previously monitored their facilities to document compliance.

Safe exposure positions and conditions referenced above are as follows:

- a. Dental intraoral units (bite wings) where exposures are made from either a protected position or six-foot distance from the source of scatter (the patient).
- b. Panoramic units incorporating a narrowly collimated beam and film holder with a lead backing, where exposures are made from either a protected position or a four-foot distance from the source of scatter (the patient).
- c. Cephalometric units using a properly collimated beam to a film cassette with an intensifying screen where exposures are made from a protected position.
- d. Exposures should not be made with anyone other than the patient in the room.
- e. New modalities such as dental CT will require a shielded position.

Florida's requirements are contained in Part III of 64E-5, Florida Administrative Code, which is posted on our website. If you have questions or need guidance, please contact this office at:

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Bureau of Radiation Control, Radiation Machine Section  
4052 Bald Cypress Way, Bin C21  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1741  
Phone: (850) 245-4888 Fax: (850) 617-6442  
[www.myFloridaEH.com/radiation](http://www.myFloridaEH.com/radiation)

Note: OSHA requirements for general radiography are contained in the Code of Federal Regulations, Chapter 29, Section 1910.1096, paragraphs (d) (2) (i),(ii), & (iii) at [WWW.OSHA.GOV](http://WWW.OSHA.GOV).