DENTAL X-RAY PROTOCOLS

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.

Protective aprons shall be used on all patients with thyroid collars if appropriate.

1. 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 panos where the source moves during exposure. This is also very important to note with the portable units (Nomads) as it is very easy to have the operator, observers or other patients less than six feet away. This is VERY IMPORTANT!

2. The use of appropriate sensor holders and positioners should ensure that the operator does not hold the sensor during exposure. Proper infection control procedures as recommended by the CDC shall by adhered to for all patients.

3. Only use BLUE pens when writing on patient registration form or x-rays.

4. Patients must be checked-in and out of X-ray. Patient must be logged in at the x-ray check-in table. The patient's name and arrival time should be listed on x-ray log. Prior to the patient leaving the X-ray department, they must be logged out indicating the time they left.

5. When the patient arrives in X-ray, review the Triage Evaluation & Diagnosis entries and determine which x-rays are to be taken. The patient will then be directed to the appropriate line (handheld or panorex) for x-rays to be taken.

6. Take all necessary x-rays requested in the three priority areas of the TRIAGE EVALUATION & DIAGNOSIS section on the Patient Registration form. Have the x-rays printed when the quality is confirmed and attached them to the Patient Registration form. IMPORTANT for tracking and accounting purposes record the type and number of x-rays taken in the X-RAY area of the Patient Registration form.

Department Lead
Dr. Kerry Kennedy
7. The Patient Registration form will be double-checked by the X-ray Clipboard Checker to make sure that the chart is legible and completely filled out with the type and number of x-rays. Once an X-Ray Department Lead confirms the quality of the x-rays, the patient will be logged out at the x-ray check-in table and escorted, along with their forms and x-rays to Routing.

8. If you have an emergency, there are EMT services on site. Stay with the patient and send someone else to alert the department lead who will immediately radio for an EMT. Hold up the EMT station card so the EMT can quickly identify where to go once they have been radioed.

   Lastly, PLEASE BE FLEXIBLE and THANK YOU for participating today!