

Radiation Protection Program

1. Review and document radiographic technique settings, update technique charts as necessary. Technique charts for medical facilities should include precise settings for each body part measured in centimeters.
2. Review standard operating procedures with x-ray staff. Confirm that each employee has read and comprehended the radiation safety procedures prior to operating the equipment.
3. Review personnel monitoring records if provided.
4. Evaluate the condition of the protective equipment, i.e., lead aprons, lead gloves, gonadal shields, etc.
5. Check required employee postings.
6. Document employee training.

Safety Procedures in Surgical Practices

1. All persons remaining in a surgical suite during x-ray exposure, whether employees of the facility or not, use a personnel monitoring device. This device is worn at collar level and outside any lead apron or thyroid collar. If a second monitor is worn, it is located at the waist and under the lead apron.
2. Only Persons necessary to perform a surgical procedure remain in the surgical suite during an x-ray exposure.
3. Everyone present in a surgical suite during x-ray exposure wears a lead apron of at least 0.25-millimeter lead equivalency, unless stationed behind a barrier specifically designed to shield persons from x-rays.
4. Everyone present in a surgical suite during x-ray exposure positions themselves as far away from the x-ray tube and the patient as is practicable.
5. Train all facility employees operating x-ray machines to perform, and demonstrate competency in medical radiography.
6. Train all facility employees operating fluoroscopic machines to safely operate all of the features of the specific machine(s) used at the facility.
7. Train any physician performing surgical procedures that include the use of a fluoroscope to use dose reduction techniques for the patient, workers, and general public prior to being allowed to supervise any such procedure. This training includes an explanation of the output and scattering characteristics in all modes, orientations, and settings normally used on all types of fluoroscopes maintained in the facility. Each physician demonstrates competence in the use of all dose saving features available on any fluoroscope used at the facility.
8. Train all persons required to participate in surgical procedures that include the use of x-rays in radiation safety prior to any such assignment.

***All Operators read and sign once a year.**