Dosimetry Requirements for Medical & Veterinary Registrants

State of Oregon administrative rules require radiation machine registrants to monitor the occupational exposure of employees. The purpose of this requirement is to ensure machine operators, other radiation workers and ancillary person working in a radiation area do not receive exposure to radiation above their legal dose limits. Dosimetry requirements are determined by the potential exposure risk to the individual and take into consideration shielding, distance, workload, energy, direction of the primary beam and other related factors.

Dosimetry is required for all personnel who have a possibility of receiving greater than 10% of the maximum occupational dose in a calendar year. The Agency’s policy is that dosimetry is required for all procedures where lead aprons are used in lieu of a safe distance or a protected position. This would include the following situations:

a. When patients (human or animals) are being held during exposure;
   b. During mobile (portable) x-ray procedures; or
   c. During fluoroscopy or special procedures.

Records that indicate previous use is below the 10% limits do not negate the monitoring requirement of the above listed situations because previous safe practice does not guarantee continued safe practice or the possibility of future errant exposure. Keep in mind that monitoring badges shall be worn outside the apron at the collar level.

Oregon Administrative Rules (OAR) are posted on our website at: www.healthoregon.org/xray.

a. OARs regarding occupational dose limits for adults are found at: OAR 333-120-0100.
b. OARs regarding the use of dosimetry around fluoroscopy equipment are found at: OAR 333-120-0210(1)(e).
c. OARs regarding how to wear dosimetry are found at: OAR 333-120-0215.

If you have questions or need guidance, please contact this office at: 971-673-0490