Informational Bulletin 2018-01

November 14, 2018

To: Fluoroscopic X-ray System Registrants

From: David M. Howe, Program Director
Radiation Protection Services

Subject: Individual Monitoring for Radiation Exposure During the Activation of a Fluoroscopic Tube

The Center for Health Protection, Radiation Protection Services is releasing this informational bulletin to advise X-ray registrants who provide fluoroscopic services, that the Oregon Administrative Rule (OAR) relating to the requirement for individual monitoring for radiation, has been amended.

OAR 333-120-0210 has been amended so that radiation monitoring for all health care workers exposed to radiation during the activation of a fluoroscopic device may not be required. Based upon below, specific health care workers within the area of fluoroscopic operations have an option to discontinue the use of radiation monitoring.

Monitoring (personal dosimetry) is required for any worker who is likely to exceed 10 percent of the occupational limit within one year. To discontinue the use of monitoring of specific workers, the registrant must demonstrate that each worker within the area of fluoroscopic operations will not receive more than 10 percent of the occupational dose limits listed in OAR 333-120-0100(1).

Records must be generated and maintained to demonstrate how it was determined that specific workers or areas do not exceed the limits. Records must be retained for five years (OAR 333-100-0057) and be available upon request for inspection by RPS regulatory staff.

Per best practice, RPS recommends that workers within six feet of a fluoroscopic tube be monitored (use dosimetry) or the registrant establish an area monitoring program to evaluate ongoing radiation exposures.

If you need further clarification, please feel free to contact Todd S. Carpenter, Radiation Protection Services, (971) 673-0500, email @Todd.s.carpenter@state.or.us.