

Are Dental X-Rays Safe For My Child?

With the use of modern technology, wearing thyroid-blocking aprons, and safe x-ray taking practices, it's never been safer to have dental radiographs taken.

Children's Dentistry

Updated On: November 27, 2024



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Aren't X-rays dangerous?

X-rays expose the human body to slight amounts of radiation that could cause cancer later in life. However, getting cancer from radiograph related radiation is only one in one million. By wearing a protective metal-lined apron around vital organs reduces the risk of cancer even further.

Why do we need to x-ray our teeth?

There's only so much a dentist can see topically in the mouth. If they do identify cavities with their naked eye, they'll need to get a better look at how deep the cavity goes before filling it. X-rays help dentists create the most effective treatment plans in case there are more cavities than what meets the eye. Your child could have cavities in-between their teeth, along the gumline, in difficult-to-see areas, and possibly underneath a pre-existing filling. X-rays will identify all of these areas, plus, dentists can check on the health of your child's jawbone and roots.


What will the dentist and dental assistants do to protect my child further?

Your child most likely will not need radiographs each dental appointment. To limit radiation exposure, dental radiographs are only taken when absolutely necessary during a **cleaning/exam**. It's a good idea to routinely update the x-rays, but it may only be every 24-48 months depending on how at-risk your child is for cavities, tooth development problems, or other various issues.

Have other concerns about radiographs? Schedule an appointment today to address your concerns with the dentist.

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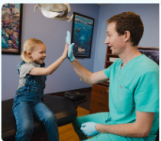
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