



PATIENT SHIELDING

No longer recommended during radiation examinations

Along with other Canadian hospitals, OSMH's Diagnostic Imaging (DI) Department is discontinuing the use of shielding during patient radiation exams, including X-ray, CT and Fluoroscopy. This practice is no longer considered effective and is not recommended by medical professionals and organizations around the world, including the Canadian Association of Radiologists



What has Changed?

- Routine patient shielding will **not** be used during radiation procedures in accordance with best practice standards and Safety Code 35
- Modern X-ray technology is more advanced with radiation doses reduced by more than 95% since shields were first recommended over 70 years ago
- Today's equipment uses sensors that determine how much radiation is needed to create a diagnostic image

Isn't Shielding Safer? No

It may:

- Reduce effectiveness of an exam
- Cause the machine to deliver more radiation than needed

Who will help me?

- The Medical Radiation Technologist (MRT) will position you to see the correct anatomy
- The MRT will utilize the ALARA principle (as low as reasonably achievable) to reduce any risks

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT THIS IMPROVEMENT, PLEASE ASK YOUR MEDICAL RADIATION TECHNOLOGIST (MRT)



This practice is supported by:
Canadian Association of Radiologists
Canadian Association of Medical Radiation Technologists
Canadian Organization of Medical Physicists
American College of Radiology
American Society of Radiologic Technologists
American Association of Physicists in Medicine
Society of Pediatric Radiology
British Institute of Radiology



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