

# **DENTAL PRACTICE**

**Address Line 1**

**Address Line 2**

**County**

**Postcode**

# **RADIATION PROTECTION FILE**

**Produced to ensure compliance with:**

**The Ionising Radiations Regulations 2017**

**And**

**Ionising Radiation (Medical Exposure)  
Regulations 2017**

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The contents of this file were developed in consultation with the Employer and RPA on behalf of the Practice by:

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# 1. PRINCIPLES, DUTY HOLDERS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

## 1.1 INTRODUCTION

This RADIATION PROTECTION FILE contains the general principles and evidence that demonstrates compliance with the relevant Regulations and Guidance, in particular:

- The Ionising Radiations Regulations 2017 (IRR17) (Statutory Instrument 2017, No. 1075) and the associated Approved Code of Practice and Guidance<sup>1</sup>.
- Ionising Radiation (Medical Exposure) Regulations 2017 (IR(ME)R) (Statutory Instrument 2017, No. 1322).
- Guidance Notes for Dental Practitioners on the Safe Use of X-ray Equipment, NRPB, 2001.

## 1.2 THE PRINCIPLES OF RADIATION PROTECTION

Radiation protection is based on three principles:

- **JUSTIFICATION:** No practice shall be adopted unless its introduction produces a net benefit i.e. all exposure to ionising radiation must be clinically justified, and the benefits must outweigh the risks.
- **OPTIMISATION:** All radiation exposures shall be kept As Low As Reasonably Practicable (ALARP), economic and social factors being taken into account.
- **LIMITATION:** The dose equivalent to individuals shall not exceed the dose limits.

*The first two principles apply to the X-ray examination of patients.*

*The final two principles apply to the protection of staff and public.*

## 1.3 RADIATION PROTECTION DUTY HOLDERS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

There are a range of responsibilities and staff appointments required under both IRR17 and IR(ME)R; hence, it is important to ensure that these are made clear (in writing), and backed up by appropriate training records for that role.

### 1.3.1 EMPLOYER:

The *ultimate responsibility* for radiation health & safety in this Practice lies with the employer.

The Employer for this Practice is: \_\_\_\_\_

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/books/1121.htm>



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