

DENTAL PRACTICE

Address Line 1

Address Line 2

County

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RADIATION PROTECTION FILE

Produced to ensure compliance with:

The Ionising Radiations Regulations 2017

and

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

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 Guidance¹.
- 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: _____

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

*Sample pages from 52
page document.*

*Full template supplied as
Microsoft Word document
to all client practices to assist
in compliance with radiation
regulations.*

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