

RADIATION SAFETY

The guidelines for radiation safety will be <u>strictly</u> adhered to during all examinations and utilization of radiation equipment in the radiology section.

- 1. All persons present in the room during radiographic examinations must wear a radiation dosimeter (badge) outside their lead apron. Lead aprons and lead gloves must be worn by all animal handlers during a radiographic examination.
- 2. Individuals under the age of 18 and pregnant women are not permitted in the room during radiographic exposure.
- 3. Periodic safety checks and maintenance of all radiation equipment and radiation safety devises will be performed.
- 4. <u>No one</u> but authorized radiology personnel or trained students will operate the equipment in the radiology section during business hours. Trained students or authorized emergency duty personnel may operate designated equipment after hours.

The use of proper radiation procedures is not negotiable. If unprotected human digits or other human body parts are present on a radiograph taken by radiology students, all students involved will be considered responsible and additional assignments will be given. The assignment typically is a paper on some aspect of radiation safety. If radiation safety is breached and an additional assignment is made, the student's grade will not be released until the work is completed.

Clients

- Clients are not allowed in the radiology suite.
 - Safety The viewing area is usually a safe place, but we never know what sort of animal will be in there or if a client will inadvertently be irradiated in one of the radiology rooms.
 - Efficiency Because we are here for the clients, we want to be as efficient as possible and make their visit to MSU as little less stressful; our goal is efficiency.
 - Client confidentiality
- Images may be reviewed with clients on the exam room computers or on the PACS work station in the equine area.
- If clients request a copy of their animal's images there will be a charge. Please ask the radiology staff for charge information.

Safety Rules

- 1. Always wear lead gloves and aprons when remaining in the room for an exposure.
- 2. Never permit anyone under the age of 18 in the examination area during the procedure.
- 3. Never permit pregnant women in the examination area during the procedure.
- 4. Rotate personnel who assist with the radiographic examinations to minimize exposure.
- 5. Remove all personnel from the examination area who are not involved with the procedure.
- 6. Never permit any part of the body to be within the primary beam whether shielded or not.
- 7. Always look away from the x-ray beam during the exposure.
- 8. Always wear a radiation-monitoring device near the collar and outside of the lead apron.
- 9. Use collimation whenever possible to decrease field size and scatter radiation.
- 10. Always wear lead gloves when holding a cassette or a patient.
- 11. Never position any body part within the primary beam when holding a cassette.
- 12. Always plan your radiographic procedures carefully to avoid unnecessary retakes.
- 13. Always use mechanical restraints, such as sand bags, rope, or tape whenever possible.
- 14. Always use chemical restraint whenever possible.
- 15. Adhere to the radiation safety codes for your state.
- 16. Never hand hold the x-ray tube.
- 17. Do not direct the x-ray beam directly at any personnel or an adjacent occupied room.

9-26-12 Approved: Burt. Director

Gary J. Burt, Director Animal Health Center College of Veterinary Medicine

Date

Approved:

Kent Hoblet, Dean College of Veterinary Medicine

Date