

## X-RAY INFORMATION

A thorough dental examination is not complete without X-rays of the teeth and their surrounding bone. Cavities, infections, periodontal disease, bone loss, abscesses and other conditions that may exist cannot always be diagnosed without X-rays. Any part of your teeth not visible or accessible to the naked eye cannot be examined unless X-rays are taken. This most commonly includes the area where teeth contact each other, (where most cavities form) and tooth root surfaces covered by gum tissue. Periodic X-rays are recommended at specific intervals of time.

We share your concern about X-rays. Exposure to radiation makes everyone uneasy. Only judicious use of X-rays is in our patients best interest. We try to rely first and foremost upon a thorough visual, and tactile examination. If there is any uncertainty, or areas that are questionable, we then ask ourselves whether we may expect X-rays to yield best possible significant information. X-rays will not be recommended without very good reason.

Princeton Dental has invested in a digital X-ray system. Highly sensitive sensor plates are now used instead of film. The advantage to the patient is reduced exposure time, and intensity. The images produced are clear and easily interpreted. Data can be enlarged, enhanced, printed, and e-mailed, as needed. Decay, trauma, or any other pathology can be diagnosed easily and at earlier stages.

Radiation exposure is minimized by sensitive digital sensors requiring lower radiation energy. Lead aprons and collars shield your body. The State of New Jersey sends Nuclear Physicists to monitor our X-ray units ensuring strict adherence to guidelines.

You can protect yourself too. Please feel free to ask us why you need an X-ray. Let us know if you have recently had multiple X-rays for other medical issues. If you move or we refer you to a specialist we can e-mail or print your X-rays to forward on to them. If you are a new patient, many times your former dentist can email images to us.

Understanding the reasons that X-rays are necessary to diagnose and evaluate your oral health makes you part of your treatment plan. We work with X-rays everyday – they are our “eyes”. Dentistry would be a guessing game without them.

Princeton Dental will not be held liable for dental conditions that cannot be diagnosed due to refusal of X-rays by a patient. A complete diagnosis is impossible without recommended X-rays.

Disclaimer: “I have been informed that X-rays are necessary to evaluate and diagnose possible dental disease and/or pathology possibly arising from my teeth/gums/bone. I am fully responsible for any circumstances resulting from my refusal of dental X-rays when they were recommended.”

SIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_