

SAHTU HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICE AUTHORITY
Policy

**DOSIMETER BADGES
(PLAQUES)**

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POLICY

Individual Dosimeter Badges are provided for all regular staff who take x-rays in a Community Health Centre. This includes, but is not limited to Community Health Nurses (CHN's), Community Health Representatives (CHR's), Caretakers, and Dental Therapists.

All regular staff who take x-rays in Health Centres are responsible for exercising due diligence in wearing their Dosimeter Badges. Quarterly radiation reports from the Health Protection Branch of Health Canada are monitored for total accumulation of individual radiation dosages.

PURPOSE

1. To ensure all staff are aware of their responsibility to wear individual Dosimeter Badges when operating x-ray equipment in a Community Health Centre.
2. To ensure all staff have access to the proper procedures for registering, wearing, monitoring, and reporting on Dosimeter Badges.
3. To ensure appropriate monitoring and reporting of radiation exposure.
4. To help protect staff from potentially harmful doses of radiation.

PROCEDURES AND INDIVIDUAL RESPONSIBILITIES

The Nurse-in-Charge (N.I.C.)

- Ensures that each staff member operating x-ray equipment is registered with: Health Canada, Radiation Protection Bureau, 775 Brookfield Rd., Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 1C1. (Tel) 1- 800- 261- 6689;
- Provides individuals with personal badges;

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- Completes registration and tracking documentation quarterly, and submits to Health Canada.

Staff Member

- Is responsible for wearing personal Dosimeter Badge at all times, irrespective of whether he/she is taking an exposure or not;
- Wears Dosimeter Badge at about waist level on the left side of body, and if taking an x-ray, wears it on the inside of the apron;
- Never wears another staff member's Dosimeter Badge;
- Never takes their Dosimeter Badge home;
- Never leaves their Dosimeter Badge in the room where x-rays are taken.

Casual Relief Nurse

- Registers Dosimeter Badge in one Health Centre;
- Carries the Dosimeter Badge to other work site(s);
- Returns Dosimeter Badge to issuing Health Centre for Quarterly change and/or at the end of their term.

Manager, Health Services

- Monitors use of badges when doing regular community visits.
- Receives the quarterly report form the Radiation Protection Bureau;
- Monitors the readings. Reports concerns.

REFERENCES

1. Health Canada, Radiation Protection Bureau, National Dosimetry Services.
2. Radiation Monitoring Systems, GNWT Policy 913.

Approved by: _____



Chad Fehr, CEO