

## X-Ray Policy

Because Stellar Dental Care has an obligation to assist every patient in achieving a lifetime of dental health, we've developed our X-Ray Policy.

Below is an abridged version of Stellar Dental Care's X-Ray Policy. The full version is available at the reception desk.

Stellar Dental Care follows the American Dental Association (ADA) recommendations for dental radiographic examinations along with the judgment of the treating dentist.

Stellar Dental Care follows the ADA's ALARA Radiation Principal (as low as reasonable achievable) to minimize the patient's exposure. No other reasonable diagnostic option to dental radiographs exist at this time.

### Stellar Dental Care's X-Ray Requirements:

#### For a New Patient:

We'll do an individualized radiographic exam consisting of bitewings along with a full panoramic exam.

#### For On-Going Patients:

At 6 to 12 months,  
*if we've determined there is decay or risk of decay,*  
we'll do a bitewings X-Ray exam.

At 12 to 24 months,  
*if we've determined there is no decay or risk of decay,*  
we'll do a bitewings X-Ray exam.

We'll perform a Panoramic X-Ray Exam every 3-5 years based on the judgment of your dentist.



*Talk with your Stellar Dental Care Professional for more information about Radiation and X-Rays.*



In our on-going efforts to keep our patients informed, Stellar Dental Care is pleased to provide this informative brochure.

### Five Convenient Offices To Serve You:

**4154 McKinley Pkwy.**

*Near McKinley Mall*

716.649.2288

**7500 Transit Road**

*Near Eastern Hills Mall*

716.632.5555

**2929 Sheridan Dr.**

*Near Boulevard Mall*

716.831.8844

**3557 Union Road**

*Near Galleria Mall*

716.651.0099

**1165 French Road**

*Cheektowaga, Corner of Borden Road*

716.274.7777

[stellardentalcare.com](http://stellardentalcare.com)



# Understanding Radiation and Dental X-Rays



# Dental X-Rays Are a Safe Diagnostic Tool for Your Dentist

While dental X-rays involve radiation, the exposed levels are so low that they're considered safe for children and adults. Stellar Dental Care uses state-of-the-art digital X-rays instead of developing them on film, your risk from radiation exposure is minimal.



## Dental X-Rays... A Diagnostic Tool

Dental X-rays are a necessary diagnostic tool used to help your dentist detect damage and disease not visible during a regular dental exam.

If you are a new patient, the dentist requires X-rays to determine the present status of your oral health and establish a baseline to help identify changes that may occur later. A new set of X-rays may be needed to help your dentist detect any new cavities, determine the status of your gum health or evaluate the growth and development of your teeth.

Every precaution is taken to ensure that radiation exposure is As Low As Reasonable Achievable (the ALARA principle) with the use of the state-of-the-art digital nomad and panoramic machines. A leaded apron and thyroid collar are additional tools used to minimize unnecessary exposure minimizes exposure to the abdomen and throat.

### Are You Pregnant?

Make sure to tell your dentist. During your pregnancy, X-rays may be required for certain treatment beyond the gum line. Dental X-rays do not necessarily need to be delayed if you are pregnant, trying to become pregnant, or are breastfeeding.

*Source: The American Dental Association*

### How Much Radiation is Used in Dental X-Rays?

The dentist will use only enough radiation to see what he or she needs to care for you. We all are exposed to small amounts of radiation daily from the sun, soil, rocks, buildings, air and water. This type of natural radiation is called background radiation. The radiation used in dental x-rays has been compared to the amount of background radiation a person gets naturally on a daily basis.

## Radiation Dosage Chart

Micro-Sieverts ( $\mu\text{Sv}$ )  
Effective Dose

