



Radiograph (X-Ray) Policy

The use of x-rays in dentistry is considered a necessary component of a thorough dental examination. Problems cannot be treated without first being detected and sometimes, certain dental conditions are not visible to the naked eye during routine examination. We at Alamo Heights Pediatric Dentistry understand concerns parents have about exposing children to x-rays. Therefore, we will only take x-rays that are necessary to provide our patients with optimal care that we would also recommend for our own children and families. We follow the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry's (AAPD) recommendation for the type and frequency of x-rays and parents are always informed before any radiographs are taken. Our office takes every precaution to minimize radiation by using lead aprons, thyroid collars, and digital x-rays as well as getting our x-ray machines checked and calibrated regularly. We are attaching information regarding radiographs so you can be informed and understand the different types of x-rays, recommended frequencies, and their purpose.

I have reviewed and understand the attached radiographic exam information and agree to express and discuss any concerns with my child's dentist. I understand that Alamo Heights Pediatric Dentistry follows the necessary guidelines and recommendation set forth by the AAPD. I also understand that the radiographic exam is **not** determined by my dental insurance and the frequencies they set forth. I understand that declining radiographs when indicated can result in missed conditions to my child's dental health. I acknowledge that **repeated** refusal of radiographs is asking our doctors to practice below the standard of care and will result in termination of the doctor-patient relationship.

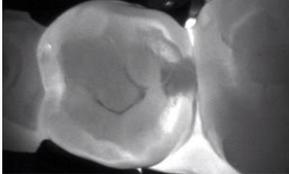
Child's Name: _____

Parent's Name: _____

Signature: _____



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<p>Bitewing X- Ray</p> 	<p>Bitewing x-rays allow us to see in between the teeth closely to check for tooth decay and check the status and quality of existing treatment. These x-rays are taken 1x/year unless there are area of decay that are being monitored or a child is considered high risk</p>
<p>Occlusal X-rays</p> 	<p>Images of the top front and/or bottom front primary teeth to identify decay, infection, trauma, extra and/or missing teeth.</p>
<p>Periapical (PA) X-rays</p> 	<p>PA x-rays show all the root and bone surrounding the tooth. PAs can show infections, trauma, or how the permanent tooth is developing in that specific area.</p>
<p>Panoramic Image</p> 	<p>Image of the entire mouth including all teeth (including those that are not erupted yet), the upper and lower jaws, temporomandibular joints (TMJ), nasal area, and sinuses. Taken at specific phases to monitor growth and development, identify extra and missing teeth, impacted teeth, as well as cysts and tumors. Taken when first adult teeth come in and every 3-5 years after that.</p>
<p>CariVu Transillumination</p> 	<p>This is a cavity detection device that floods the tooth with light to show where a cavity is present and how it is progressing. This option may be recommended by your provider when monitoring minimal lesions to limit use of traditional x-rays or when a child is x-ray averse.</p>

Alamo Heights Pediatric Dentistry

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