

Information Sheet No 14

Use of Lead Aprons

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Use of Lead Aprons

This practice does not use lead aprons. Please do not be alarmed when we do not offer you a lead apron as protection when we take routine x-rays at this practice. The very small amount of radiation involved when taking dental x-rays means that it is not necessary for you to wear a lead apron. There is a very small risk involved with any exposure to radiation, but technological advances in the x-ray equipment used means that the actual risk is minimal. To help you understand the level of risk involved, a comparison would be travelling by air – a flight to Spain and back would expose you to the same additional radiation as two bitewing x-rays.

X-rays are taken to help us identify any potential problems which you might have, such as decay. We can then use the x-rays to plan any treatment you might require.

It is helpful for us to know if you are, or think you might be, pregnant. Evidence shows that there is no risk to the baby or the mother, enabling us therefore to take routine dental x-rays.

Further information about x-rays can be obtained from the information leaflet, available at the Reception desk.