

Radiation Protection Services

X-ray Owner/Operator Information Series

Manitoba Regulation 341/88R An overview

The Government of Manitoba has, for more than 40 years, contracted with CancerCare Manitoba to provide radiation protection services to the province. Legislation covering this program falls under the authority of Manitoba Health.

The main areas of responsibility with respect to radiation protection are outlined as follows.

Limit worker exposure to radiation by ensuring workers must:

- Not be directly exposed to the x-ray beam.
- Use protective devices available.
- Be outside the x-ray room (inside control booths or behind protective screens or walls) during radiography.
- Wear x-ray monitoring badges at all times during the course of their duties if they routinely take x-rays.

Limit patient exposure to radiation by ensuring patients must:

- Be provided with lead shields, as appropriate.
- Only attend an x-ray as prescribed by medical, dental or chiropractic practitioner.
- Be x-rayed at the lowest practical dose.

Prevent the general public from radiation exposure by ensuring they:

- Must be protected from exposure to nearby x-ray equipment by properly designed and constructed x-ray rooms.

The x-ray regulation, in summary, specifies the following:

- It determines who may use x-ray equipment for the irradiation of patients;
- It outlines the owner's responsibility regarding radiation exposure control for x-ray workers, patients and the general public;
- It requires that x-ray monitoring dosimeters be provided to x-ray workers – thereafter it is the responsibility of workers to wear and faithfully exchange their monitors.
- It lists the criteria to follow to obtain approval to install and use an x-ray machine; and,
- It gives inspectors the authority to enter the equipment's location, request information, and perform tests related to its use.

Contact Information

The Radiation Protection Services is pleased to provide training, in-services or specific consultations as requested. Questions and enquiries are welcome. Our goal is not only to ensure that x-ray regulations and codes are followed, but also to provide information and assistance to anyone involved with x-ray technology.

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