



**Council on  
Diagnostic Imaging**



## **CDI POSITION STATEMENT**

### **RADIOGRAPHIC GUIDELINES FOR USE IN CHIROPRACTIC**

1. Routine radiography of any patient should not be, performed without due regard for clinical need.
2. Any offer or advertising of free x-rays to actual or potential patients shall be accompanied by a statement that, to avoid needless health hazards associated with ionizing radiation, no such free x-ray will be given unless there is a prior observable clinical need for it.
3. Avoidance of split screen radiographic techniques or other mechanisms which compensate for tissue thickness by altering the screen or the light emission from the screens, such as the occluding of one of the screens of the cassette, is recommended.
4. Repeat Radiographic evaluation of the patient should not be undertaken without significant observable clinical indication, as determined by, the treating chiropractic physician.
5. Pregnant females should not be radiographed unless the patient's symptoms are of such significance that the proper treatment of the patient might be jeopardized without the use of such radiographs.
6. Radiographic procedures should not be undertaken without the use of appropriate compensating filters and gonad shielding, except where such gonad shielding would exclude an area from examination which is clinically necessary to examine.
7. Females with reproductive potential, or where the possibility of pregnancy exists, should be radiographed only where clinically necessary and, preferably, during the first ten days following the onset of menses.

The above guidelines are based on the recognized principle that exposure to unnecessary ionizing radiation represents an unwarranted health hazard.

The guidelines are consistent with the rules of conduct when employing radiographic procedures common throughout the health care community and are consistent with those recommended by the Center for Devices and Radiological Health, Food & Drug Administration of the Department of Health & Human Services.