REGULATORY GUIDE 6.0
GUIDE FOR THE PREPARATION OF WRITTEN SAFETY PROCEDURES
TO BE PROVIDED TO OPERATORS OF X-RAY EQUIPMENT
IN THE HEALING ARTS

INTRODUCTION
The purpose of this guide is to provide an outline of the subjects to be addressed in the written safety procedures required by Title 180, "Control of Radiation." 6-003.01, item 1.d.

RESTRICTIONS OF THE OPERATING TECHNIQUE
REQUIRED FOR SAFE OPERATION

The procedures should contain:

• An anode cooling chart or recommended time interval between exposures.
• Technique factor settings which would cause tube overload.
• Instructions for the proper setup and electrical connection of portable and mobile x-ray equipment.
• Location of the technique chart to be used for each particular x-ray system.

PROTECTION OF THE PATIENT FROM EXPOSURE TO RADIATION

The procedures should contain:

• Any instructions on the use of patient shielding not included on the technique chart as required by 180 NAC 6-003.01, item 1.c.(4).
• Instructions for the termination of x-ray production in an emergency (e.g. exposure continues after preset time interval).
• Precautionary measures to be adhered to during the use of image intensified fluoroscopes with a source-to-skin distance less than 30 centimeters.
• Instructions to ask each female patient of child-bearing age if she may be pregnant and to notify the Doctor if she indicates yes.
• Instructions to set variable filtration for the highest available amount.
• Instructions to ensure that the proper fixed-aperture, beam-limiting device/image receptor combination is in use.
PROTECTION OF THE STAFF AND ANCILLARY PERSONNEL
FROM EXPOSURE TO RADIATION

The procedures should contain:

• Instructions on the use of mechanical holding devices. Projections where mechanical holding devices cannot be utilized. The requirements for selecting a human holder and the procedure the holder shall follow.

• The location of the protected area provided for each particular x-ray system.

• Instructions to remain in the protected area during the entire exposure.

• Instructions on the proper wearing of personnel monitoring devices.

• Instructions on the amount and use of shielding required by 180 NAC 6-003.01, item 1.e.

• Instructions to close all doors posted "Close door during x-ray procedures".

GENERAL SAFETY

The procedures should contain:

• Measures to be taken in case of fire.

• Location of nearest fire extinguisher.

• Cautions on the movement and positioning of x-ray equipment.