



Arkansas Department of Health

4815 West Markham Street • Little Rock, Arkansas 72205-3867 • Telephone (501) 661-2000

Governor Mike Beebe

Paul K. Halverson, DrPH, FACHE, Director and State Health Officer

TO: All Dental X-ray Registrants

FROM: Bernard Bevill, Section Chief
Radiation Control, Arkansas Department of Health

DATE: February 7, 2013

SUBJECT: **Arkansas Information Notice 13-02**

The purpose of this Information Notice is to remind Dental X-ray Registrants of the minimum State requirements for hand-held dental x-ray equipment.

Recently members of the X-ray Compliance Program have found hand-held dental equipment being used which does not meet the minimum requirements for such in accordance with the Arkansas Board of Health's *Rules and Regulations for the Control of Sources of Ionizing Radiation*, RH-1606, which states in part: "X-ray systems designed for use with an intraoral image receptor shall be provided with means to limit source-to-skin distance to not less than 18 centimeters...at the minimum source-to-skin distance (18 cm) the x-ray field shall be containable in a circle having a diameter of no more than seven centimeters".

Additionally, all hand-held x-ray units will be used in accordance with manufacturer's specifications, namely, if a hand shield or back scatter shield is provided by the manufacturer, one shall be used.

Although acceptance or pre-market approval from the FDA is mandated, hand-held equipment must also meet Arkansas State Requirements. Compliance with FDA standards for hand-held equipment may be reviewed via the searchable database entitled "FDA Medical Device Approvals and Clearances" on the FDA website: <http://www.fda.gov>.

Should you have any question regarding the purchase of hand-held equipment please feel free to contact this office with specific questions prior to making a purchase. Questions regarding existing equipment are welcomed as well.

If you have questions regarding this information or if our office may be of assistance please contact Bernard Bevill, Section Chief Radiation Control or Sherry Watkins, X-ray Program Supervisor at (501) 661-2301.