



PLEASE READ OUR POLICY ON RADIOGRAPHS

Radiographs (x-rays) provide one of the best diagnostic tools in dentistry. They enable the dentist and hygienist to see inside the tissue of the teeth, gums, and bones of the jaw. At St. Charles Family Dentistry we are conservative in our use of x-rays. Without them decay and other diseases of the mouth cannot be diagnosed, potentially until serious damage has been done. We never take unnecessary x-rays.

The doctors recommend that radiographs be taken for patients with no signs of decay or disease, when indicated for diagnostic purposes. A full mouth series is generally needed every three to five years, alternating with a panoramic film, as well as four bitewing radiographs every 12 months. In some cases there can be latitude to extend these time frames.

If you have been seen by a dentist within the last five years and have had x-rays taken it is important that we receive copies of these from your precious dentist. If they are good quality it may not be necessary to have them taken at your first visit here. Please complete a "Record Release" form and return it to the office. If no x-rays have been taken, or if the x-rays forwarded to us are of poor quality, we will need to take diagnostic films at your first visit here to determine your status and make a comprehensive evaluation of conditions not visible otherwise.

Some dental insurance plans have limits on their coverage of radiographs. If you have dental insurance please check your policy's coverage. Good quality x-rays from your previous dentist may be used by our office. If they are of poor quality or if we do not receive them from your previous dentist before your first visit here we will need to take x-rays here. **You may be responsible for the fees involved, as insurance may not cover these.**