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DIAGNOSTIC X-RAYS

A dental x-ray is a picture of parts of the teeth, bone and gum tissue that cannot be seen in a clinical examination of the mouth. The details shown on the film are essential in making an accurate diagnosis of your child's oral health. Without them, certain dental conditions can and will be missed. The American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry recommends radiographs and examinations every six months for children with a high risk of tooth decay.

Baby teeth have thin enamel, and cavities in baby teeth can spread quickly. Without x-rays we can only examine 60% of the tooth's surface and early evidence of tooth decay may not be detected until cavities are severe. X-rays can also show abscessed teeth, failure of teeth to form, developing unerupted teeth, fractures of tooth roots, tumors and cysts of the jaw, extra teeth that may be present in the jaw, and can also detect bone destruction associated with gum disease.

With contemporary safeguards, the amount of radiation received in a dental x-ray is very small. Our equipment is certified for precise dosage and minimal exposure time. The film we use is the fastest x-ray film made today, and children wear a protective lead apron to assure that your child receives a minimal amount of radiation exposure. In reality, taking periodic x-rays amounts to about the same amount of radiation exposure as one day in the sun!

The decision as to when to take x-rays are based on a number of findings, including but not limited to:

- ❖ The eruption pattern of your child's teeth
- ❖ The extent of decay in you child's mouth
- ❖ The presence of unusual pathology on you child's teeth or surrounding tissue
- ❖ Any history of injury to you child's mouth
- ❖ A family history of dental
- ❖ The presence or absence of fluoridated drinking water in you community

I, the undersigned have read and understand the above information and, (please check one)

AGREE, Give consent for Diagnostic X-Rays, as recommended.

Disagree, Release the Doctor or any member of the dental team from any responsibility resulting from refusal of Diagnostic X-rays as recommended.

Signed _____

Date _____