

We've Gone Digital

If you have recently been to our office you may have noticed some changes with our dental x-rays. Digital radiology has many positive advantages for you our patients. In today's world there are many advances in technology that make our lives easier and more convenient. The dental field is no different, and has seen great leaps in technological advances. One of these technologies is **dental digital radiography**.

Benefits of Dental Digital Radiography Dental digital radiography holds more benefits today than using a traditional X-ray based imaging system.

Digital x-rays reduces radiation exposure to the patient and dental staff

Digital dental radiography can produce a high quality dental image with 60%-80% less exposure than traditional film dental x-rays. While the traditional x-rays film we had always used had a very low exposure level ... this takes radiation exposure to a new very low level.

Digital x-rays can be seen immediately with higher clarity

Within in seconds of a film being taken the image can be seen. With clear, large images, we can see details that may be missed with smaller, traditional film X-rays. No more processing, developing, and no more film. A sensor is used in place of x-ray film. This saves time and is much more efficient. Dr. Derrick can view you films from any computer in the office.

Digital x-rays are friendly to the environment

Traditional dental x-rays use chemicals to develop and fix the image on to the film. These chemicals are not friendly to the environment. In addition, traditional film x-rays use silver halide to develop the image and a silver mixture in not released into the environment. Everyone benefits from this new technology.

Your dental x-ray needs

All of your dental x-ray needs can be taken care of at our office, each operatory has the capability of taking digital x-rays. We also have a **Digital Panoramic Dental X-ray unit**. Panoramic dental x-rays show us upper and lower teeth and all surrounding tissues we look for any abnormalities such as cysts, tumors, impacted or missing teeth.

Dental x-rays are not taken on every check-up visit. The dentist regularly reviews each patient's unique situation and requests the x-rays only when necessary based on medical and dental history, regular screenings, age considerations, and risk for disease. A full mouth series or panorex is recommended for new patients and is generally good for three to five years. Bite-wing x-rays (x-rays of top and bottom teeth biting together) are generally recommended every 12 to 18 months.