

# **CHECK THIS OUT!**

Pediatric dentists, like our very own Dr. Alex Villaseñor and Dr. Neema Dad, are very careful to minimize x-ray exposure in children.

Due to technological advances, the amount of radiation received in digital dental x-rays is very small.

X-rays carry little risk compared to untreated dental problems.

0.005 mSv

Two Cavity

**Detecting X-Rays** 



Measured in Microsieverts (mSv), the measure of absorption of radiation by the human body.



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#### **Dental X-Ray**



For a child who is in their primary dentition and has not yet lost their first baby tooth, the dental x-rays recommended by the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry (AAPD), are two x-rays of the back teeth and two of the front teeth. Studies show that dental x-rays are one of the lowest radiation doses. 0.005 mSv for cavity detecting x-rays is less than daily radiation. One panoramic image (0.007 mSv) is approximately the same exposure, so if a child has one or more adult teeth a panoramic x-ray is indicated in addition to the cavity detecting x-rays.



### **Daily Radiation**

We are exposed to natural radiation all the time. According to recent estimates, the average person in the U.S. receives an effective dose of about 3 mSv per year. Examples of daily radiation exposure include cell phones, WIFI, televisions and playing outside.



#### Coast to Coast Flight

A round trip, coast to coast flight is 7 times the radiation exposure of two cavity detecting x-rays.



### A Day at the Beach

Just think, playing on the beach for six hours is 10 times the radiation exposure of two cavity detecting x-rays.