



### PATIENT RADIATION EXPOSURE INFORMATION

The table below lists: (1) several common radiographic projections; (2) Diagnostic Reference Levels; and (3) Achievable Levels.

Diagnostic Reference Levels (DRL) are based on data collected by the Radiation Safety Section during routine inspections of x-ray facilities. DRLs are set at the 75th percentile of the exposure distribution for each projection. DRLs are not regulatory limits. However, medical facilities that exceed a DRL should look at optimizing image quality while achieving the appropriate radiation dose to the patient.

Achievable Levels represent the median (50<sup>th</sup> percentile) of the exposure distribution which means that 50% of the facilities are already producing images at or below this level.

Projection	Diagnostic Reference Level (mR)	Achievable Level (mR)
PA Chest (without a grid)	15	10
PA Chest (with a grid)	23	16
AP Lumbar Spine	365	264
AP Cervical Spine	77	55
DP Foot	12	8
Hand	7	5
Dental Cephalometric	12	8

Please contact the Radiation Safety Section in either our Lansing office at (517) 284-7820 or Detroit office at (313) 456-4660 if you have any questions concerning diagnostic reference levels or achievable doses.