(A) Policy Statement

Those Radiology personnel occupationally exposed to ionizing radiation shall not routinely hold or restrain patients during diagnostic procedures.

(B) Purpose of Policy

To limit radiation exposure to those personnel occupationally exposed to ionizing radiation.

(C) Procedure

1. To adequately immobilize patients for radiologic procedures, technical personnel are to use available immobilization devices (head holders, compression bands, etc.).

2. If additional immobilization is needed, it is permitted to utilize other individuals as long as the proper radiation shielding is used (full lead aprons, lead gloves, etc.) in accordance with Radiology Policy # 3364-135-95.

3. Occupationally exposed individuals may only hold patients or films in the case of medical emergency and then only with the use of proper radiation shielding.

4. In no case should any part of a holder’s body be in the primary beam at any time.

5. In all cases, pregnant individuals or those under 18 years of age should not be chosen to hold the patient for exposure to ionizing radiation.