

641—40.10(136C) Veterinary medicine X-ray systems. Veterinary registrants shall be registered in accordance with 641—subrule 37.8(2) and maintained and operated, at a minimum, in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications.

40.10(1) Equipment. All veterinary equipment shall follow the general requirements as specified in rule 641—40.5(136C).

40.10(2) Operator and ancillary personnel protection for veterinary systems. All wall, ceiling, and floor areas shall be equivalent to or provided with applicable protective barriers to ensure compliance with the provisions of this chapter.

a. All stationary, mobile, or portable X-ray systems used for veterinary work shall be provided with either a 6.5-foot (2-meter-) high protective barrier for operator protection during exposures or shall be provided with means to allow the operator to be at least 6.5 feet (2 meters) from the tube housing assembly during exposures.

b. Otherwise, in cases where animals are held, the operator and ancillary personnel shall be protected by a minimum of 0.25 mm lead equivalent from scatter radiation and 0.5 mm from the useful beam.

40.10(3) Operating procedures. Veterinary medicine radiographic registrants are exempt from the requirements of this chapter, except for the provisions of rules 641—40.4(136C), 641—40.5(136C), and 641—40.10(136C).

a. No individual other than the operator shall be in the X-ray room while exposures are being made unless such individual's assistance is required.

b. The operator shall stand behind the protective barrier of 9 feet from the useful beam and the animal during radiographic exposures.

c. When an animal must be held in position during radiography, mechanical supporting or restraining devices should be used.

d. If the animal must be held by an individual, that individual shall be protected with appropriate shielding devices, such as protective gloves and an apron, and shall be so positioned that no part of the holder's body will be struck by the useful beam. The exposure of any individual used for this purpose shall be monitored.

40.10(4) Tube stands for portable X-ray systems. Except during veterinary field operations where it is impractical to do so, a tube stand or other mechanical support shall be used for portable X-ray systems so that the X-ray tube housing assembly need not be handheld during an exposure.

40.10(5) Veterinary handheld equipment. Handheld intraoral dental X-ray units used in veterinary practice shall meet the requirements of subrule 40.7(5).

40.10(6) Veterinary CT systems. CT systems, including CBCT systems, solely used in nonhuman imaging shall meet the requirements of paragraph 40.4(2) "a" but are otherwise exempt from the standards of paragraph 40.4(2) "b."

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