

# Lead aprons no longer needed for patients during X-ray exams

Yale New Haven Health adapts new practice



Research shows there is no evidence that routine X-rays taken in a radiology department damage the reproductive organs. Therefore, lead aprons/shields are not necessary to cover a patient's pelvis during routine X-ray exams. This follows national recommendations by medical societies including the American College of Radiology (ACR) and American Association of Physicists in Medicine (AAPM).

Yale New Haven Health (YNHHS) is confident that this new practice is safe for patients and has adapted the new practice. At YNHHS facilities, lead aprons are no longer used on patients undergoing routine X-rays. The X-ray technologists at these facilities always follow the ALARA principle (As Low As Reasonably Achievable). This means they will use the lowest amount of radiation to produce quality images.

**If you have any questions, feel free to speak to your X-ray technologist.**