



HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES POLICY

Department: Radiology

Policy Number: 1404

Policy Title: Gonad Shielding

Revision History: 7/01, 7/07, 7/12, 2/15, 3/18, 1/22

Revised by/Date: Lance Roeschlein 1/2025

Commissioner Initials: *LR* **Director Initials:** *AW*

Approved by: *Jan Manary*
Jan Manary, Executive Director of Health

Date: *2/1/25*

POLICY STATEMENT: It is the policy of Mille Lacs Band Health Services Radiology department to use shielding techniques on all patients who have procreative potential.

AUTHORITY: Indian Health Manual, Chapter 21
Minnesota Administrative Rule 4732

POLICY DETAILS:

- Various shielding devices are available for appropriate shielding. Have patient place lead shield over critical organs (breast, thyroid, and gonads) so the radiation beam is reduced by the shield.
 - Lead Shielding must be at least 0.5 mm Lead Equivalent
 - Gonad Shielding must be used whenever the useful x-ray beam is within 5 cm or less from the Gonads (unless lead would interfere with the exam)
 - The X-ray Technologist is responsible to assure the Gonad Lead Shielding is used
- Shielding devices:
 - Lead aprons
 - Lead gloves
 - Gonadal shields
 - Demi aprons
 - Rectangular lead shields
- Annual inspection/testing of shielding devices is preformed and documented.
- Other body tissues possess some sensitivity to radiation as well as the reproductive organs. Shielding is not limited to only those patients in the childbearing age groups and the reproductive organs. Shielding should be provided for as much of the body possible for all examinations as long as it does not interfere with the radiographic diagnosis.

Compliance - Posting Date	
Replaces – Policy Number	
Next Review - Due Date	1/2026