



## Hand-held Portable Dental X-Ray Systems



R 333.5396 allows the use of hand-held portable dental x-ray systems in the State of Michigan. This rule only allows the hand-held dental machine to be used for portable work where the patient's condition prevents transporting them to fixed radiographic facilities. **It cannot be used for routine dental radiography in dental offices.**

Some portable uses permitted with the hand-held unit would be:

- Use in nursing homes
- Home health care
- Special needs patients (individuals who may require assistance for medical, mental, or psychological disabilities)
- Sedated patients who are unable to cooperate with the positional requirements of the radiograph
- Children who, at the discretion of the provider, would not otherwise be able to receive necessary diagnostic radiography by stationary equipment.

### ***Training***

To use the machine as a portable unit, each operator must complete the training program supplied by the manufacturer. Records of the training must be maintained on file. Department health physicists will ask to see the records of the training during our regulatory inspections.

### ***Imaging***

To reduce retakes due to image blurring from tube or patient motion, we recommend that the machine be used with a digital imaging system or with film of E-speed or higher.

### ***Mounting Stand for In-Office Use***

Those who would like to use the hand-held unit for portable use while also being able to utilize it in their office need to provide a stand or a wall mount for the unit when used in the office. This would allow the operator to be at least 6 feet from the patient and the tube during the exposure. In this configuration, the machine meets the rules for the use of a fixed, mounted dental x-ray tube.