IRIS™

Image Responsibly,
Image Safely

The IRIS™ program is our commitment to achieve the highest quality diagnostic images while minimizing your radiation exposure.

There have been recent stories in the media concerning radiation doses that patients receive in diagnostic imaging exams. To help address any concerns you may have, Invision Sally Jobe has compiled the following answers to frequently asked questions.

Do all diagnostic imaging tests expose me to radiation?
No. MRI and ultrasound do not use radiation; however x-ray, CT and mammography do expose patients to low doses of radiation. If a doctor has recommended a test that involves radiation, he or she has done so because they feel the particular test is either the best or most appropriate to accurately diagnose your condition, and believes the benefits of the test far outweigh the potential risks.

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How dangerous is radiation exposure?
Although there is a definite correlation between high doses of radiation and an increased cancer risk (especially in pregnant women and small children), there is no conclusive evidence showing that the low radiation doses used in routine diagnostic imaging tests can cause harm.[1] In fact, when used properly, the diagnostic benefits of low radiation exposure can greatly outweigh any potential risks.

Radiation exposure from natural sources is something we live with every day, including exposure from the soil, sun, water, minerals and from space. People living in Colorado are exposed to greater amounts of radiation than people living at sea level. With that said, limiting your radiation exposure is a reasonable safety precaution and is of the utmost importance to Invision Sally Jobe.

How much radiation is used in these exams?
Because every patient is different in size and shape, estimated doses of radiation exposure for even the same type of test can be misleading. However, for comparison purposes, a typical chest x-ray exposes a patient to no more radiation than an individual would be exposed to during a normal day, while a CT of the head exposes a patient to the equivalent amount of radiation they would receive from natural sources over an 8-month period.[2]

Does the amount of radiation exposure vary between the type of equipment used?
Yes, and it also varies widely among imaging centers—even if they are using the same equipment. Limiting radiation exposure ultimately relies on the experience, capabilities, equipment and expertise of the imaging center and staff performing these exams.

What steps does Invision Sally Jobe take to reduce my radiation exposure?
For the past six years, Invision Sally Jobe has been working diligently to minimize radiation exposure to patients while achieving the highest quality diagnostic images. The IRIS program is our ongoing commitment to keep radiation dose as low as possible.

For more information about our IRIS program, please visit our web site: **www.InvisionSallyJobe.com**. We provide links to news articles and associations that discuss this issue in greater detail.

References
1 Health Physics Society; Fact Sheet: Radiation Exposure from Medical Diagnostic Imaging Procedures
2 ImageGently.org

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