Gettysburg Hospital
WellSpan®

Imaging Patient Education

What you should know about your *Head, Facial and Mandible (Jaw) X-ray*:

Purpose:

This exam is done to find fractures, sinusitis, and foreign bodies (objects that do not belong in your body). It is usually done on the sinuses, skull, nasal (nose) bones, jaw, and facial bones.

Preparation:

- You will be asked to remove all hair clips, bobby-pins, barrettes, hearing aids, hair ties, earrings, nose rings, and glasses.

Procedure - What to Expect:

- We will verify your name, date of birth, and the exam you will be having done.
- We will take a brief history.
- The average exam time is 15 minutes.
- During your exam you may have to either sit, stand or lie down for each image.
- The exam could be uncomfortable, depending on your injury or illness.
- The technologist will move your head different positions in order to get the x-rays.
- You may breathe during the x-ray, but you must hold very still.

After the Test:

- Your exam will be evaluated by a radiologist and the report will be sent to your physician.

Note you will be exposed to a very small amount of ionizing radiation which carries no long term risk. Women should always inform their physician or x-ray technologists if there is any change of pregnancy.

If you have questions or need additional information,
please call Gettysburg Hospital's Imaging Department:
(717) 337-4207