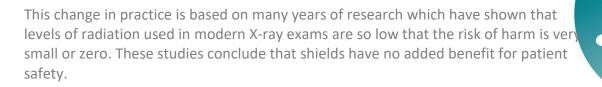
So Long Shields!

Discontinuation of **patient** shielding for X-ray based imaging exams

In order to provide the highest quality diagnostic exams at the lowest health risk, we will **no longer** place lead shields over your child during their X-ray exam.



Studies have also shown that shielding patients carries the risk of using more radiation than not shielding and could cover a body part that the doctor needs to see.

For patient safety, experts on X-ray radiation agree that patient shields should not be used.

Discontinuation of patient shields is supported by the following:

- In April 2019 the **FDA-recommended to end the use of gonadal and fetal shielding on patients** during medical diagnostic X-ray procedures.
- In April 2019, The American Association of Physicists in Medicine (AAPM) recommended not using patient shields.
- Over 50 years of research have shown that radiation levels used in modern X-ray exams have no hereditary effects (i.e., mutations in the reproductive system).
- Use of patient shields may hide anatomy that the doctor needs to see and lead to repeat exams.
- Modern X-ray machines are designed to automatically increase radiation if it detects objects that block X-rays from getting through. Therefore, patient shields can trick the system into increasing radiation.
- Lurie Children's Medical Imaging Department only uses the latest X-ray imaging technology. The radiation used for our diagnostic imaging exams is among the lowest in the country.

For more information and FAQs please visit: www.LurieChildrens.org/PatientShielding



