



**Commission for the Protection
From Ionising and Non-Ionising Radiation**

Dear License Holder,

This document serves as a reminder of the legal obligations and requirements applicable to dental practices under Nuclear Safety and Radiation Protection Act (CAP. 585) and its Subsidiary Legislation 585.01.

The individual notified to the Commission as the Legal Person holds the prime responsibility for radiation safety and security in accordance with Article 5 of CAP585, which states:

“5(1) The prime responsibility for the safety and security of ionizing and non-ionizing radiation sources rests with the undertaking:

Provided that the prime responsibility for safety and security rests with the license holder. That responsibility cannot be delegated and includes responsibility for the activities of contractors”.

Accordingly, the Legal Person is responsible for ensuring that all activities within the dental practice and clinic comply with the provisions of the Act and Subsidiary legislation. This responsibility extends to ensuring that all employed, self-employed, and contracted personnel perform their duties in accordance with the applicable legal requirements.

Additionally, in accordance with Schedule 17 of SL 585.01, only registered dentists and registered radiographers are authorised to operate intra-oral X-ray equipment. The operation of such equipment by any other person constitutes a breach of the Regulations and may result in enforcement action by the Commission.

With regards to Cone Beam Computed Tomography (CBCT), **only** dentists who have completed training that meets, as a minimum, the recommendations set out in EC Document “Radiation Protection No. 172” are authorised to refer, justify, perform imaging, and report CBCT examinations.

Furthermore, Regulation 14(1)(b) requires that refresher training is to be completed every 5 years. Online specific refresher training covering competencies commonly referred to as Level 1 and Level 2, is considered acceptable, provided it is completed before the expiry of the five-year validity period of the previous certificate. Where this five-year period has elapsed, the practitioner must successfully complete the full CBCT training programme that meets the required competency standards before resuming CBCT practice.

It should also be noted that initial acceptance test and constancy test reports have to be forwarded to the Commission. Constancy tests must be carried out every 2 years within the same calendar month as the previous test. Failure to comply will automatically result in a stop order for the use of the equipment.

Finally, it is also a legal requirement that any changes (including inventory, legal person, email address, or other contact information) needs to be communicated to the Commission.



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The Commission reminds all Legal Persons that they remain responsible for ensuring that their practice fully complies with all applicable requirements under CAP. 585 and SL. 585.01.

Should you require any clarification regarding the above requirements, please do not hesitate to contact us on *info.rpc@gov.mt*.