

# Conyngham Dental Team Attends Radiology Update



***(Pictured left to right, Course director- Kathleen Schlothauer, RDH, M.Ed, Dr. Bob Shandrick, Nadine Kubilus, Chris Reakes, Jayme Zola, Kerry Perry, RDH)***

Recently, television and press articles discussing x-ray use has sparked interest in today's dental patients. A more informed public is interested in the diagnostic benefits of dental imaging, radiation's biological effects, and radiation safety. To insure these concerns are adequately addressed by dental office personnel, and that dental teams keep radiology skills and acumen at optimal levels, the PDA (Pennsylvania Dental Association) and the Dept. of Environmental Protection now require dental office technicians to participate in regular reviews and training in radiation science, generation of both film and digital x-ray, and x-ray safety.

This past May, Shandrick Dental Care Studios team spent a day in Harrisburg, PA., attending such a PDA sponsored program addressing dental x-ray procedures. An overview of radiation science, checklists for quality controls, digital imaging, radiographic principles to ensure accurate diagnostic images, and patient and operator safety, were examined and updated. Course director, Kathleen Schlothauer, RDH, M.Ed, is a certified dental radiology instructor at Harrisburg Area Community College dental assisting and dental hygiene programs. Attendees at the program included some 60 dentists, hygienists, assistants, and ancillary dental personnel from Pennsylvania.

Today's dental facilities, like Shandrick Dental Care, employ digital x-ray imaging. This technology is a superior imaging modality over the conventional "films" previously used. Digital x-ray "sensors" reduce patient exposure during necessary x-rays, to a fraction of that needed previously. "Digital" images are also instantaneous, higher in definition and resolution, and can be magnified, enhanced, and shown to patients on a large TV monitor to view and discuss dental conditions. Because Shandrick Dental Care and many dental offices also utilize digital intraoral and extraoral photography, this non-radiation image can assist in helping patients understand their dental conditions without x-ray exposure.

**Dr. Shandrick maintains a practice in general and cosmetic dentistry at Shandrick Dental Care Studios, in Conyngham PA • (570) 788-1870 • [www.shandrickdentalcare.com](http://www.shandrickdentalcare.com)**