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सत्यमेव जयते

भारत सरकार

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

परमाणु ऊर्जा नियामक परिषद

ATOMIC ENERGY REGULATORY BOARD

नियामक भवन/NIYAMAK BHAVAN,

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SECRETARY, AERB

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PRESS RELEASE

AERB DOES NOT APPROVE ROUTINE DENTAL X-RAY EXAMINATIONS FOR AGE DETERMINATION.

Recently, there have been some news reports on the research projects on use of dental X-rays for determination of age. The news reports mentioned that many children have been issued birth certificates based on the age estimates done using dental X-rays.

As the regulator for radiation safety in the use of X-rays for medical diagnostic applications, AERB does not approve of such routine use of dental X-ray examination of any person solely for the purpose of age determination as a justified practice from radiation safety considerations.

AERB therefore advises all the medical / dental X-ray facilities, dentists / dental surgeons as well as the general public to desist from using dental X-ray examinations solely for the purpose of age determination or birth registration.

Every X-ray examination results in a radiation exposure to the person being examined, albeit small. Therefore, it is important that X-ray examinations are carried out only when it is considered as a medical diagnostic necessity. This technology should not be used indiscriminately. In the case of medical diagnostic X-ray examinations, the rationale is that the person undergoing the examination derives a direct benefit of the diagnosis.

AERB issues licenses / registration for the X-ray facilities including dental X-rays, for medical / treatment purpose alone. Use of such X-ray facilities for purposes other than medical/treatment constitutes deviation from the terms of the license/registration issued by AERB.


(S. Harikumar)