

AbstractID: 7096 Title: Fits of the $NT/(Pd^2)$ shielding curves in NCRP report number 147

Purpose: The diagnostic x-ray shielding requirements for Radiographic and R&F rooms presented in Figs. 4.5 through 4.8 in NCRP Report No. 147, and for cardiac angiography labs, have been fit to a three-parameter equation that relates the barrier thickness x to the value of $NT/(Pd^2)$. The locations of the source in the imaging room appropriate to the determination of distance d are also explicitly presented.

Methods and Materials: Section 4.2.4 of NCRP-147 presents lead and concrete shielding requirements for barriers around “representative” Radiographic and R&F rooms that include contributions from all clinical beam locations and directions. The required shielding thickness, x , for the various barriers around each room is presented graphically as a function of $NT/(Pd^2)$, where N is the weekly number of patients, T is the occupancy, P is the permitted weekly air kerma, and d is the distance (in m) from an x-ray source to the occupied area. This method has been applied previously to cardiac angiography labs. Letting η_0 be the maximum value of $NT/(Pd^2)$ for which no shielding is required, barrier thickness x depends on $(NT)/(Pd^2)$ following the equation of Archer et al. (1983):

$$x = \frac{1}{\alpha\gamma} \ln \left[\frac{\left(\frac{\left[\frac{NT}{Pd^2} \right]^\gamma}{\eta_0} + \frac{\beta}{\alpha} \right)}{1 + \frac{\beta}{\alpha}} \right]$$

Results: The values of $NT/(Pd^2)$ ($\text{mGy}^{-1}\text{m}^{-2}$) have been fit to Eq. 1 as a function of x for the curves in Figs. 4.5 through 4.8 of NCRP-147, and for cardiac angiography labs. The resultant values of η_0 , α , β , and γ for lead and concrete barriers are presented.

Conclusions: The use of Eq. 1 with the fitting parameters facilitates the use of the $NT/(Pd^2)$ methodology from NCRP-147 in computer applications. The agreement of the fit and the thicknesses read from the NCRP report is better than 0.026 mm lead and 1.7 mm concrete.