

Informed Consent CBCT Scan

1. A CBCT scan, also known as Cone Beam Computed Tomography imaging, is an x-ray technique that produces 3D images of your skull that allows visualization of internal in cross section rather than as overlapping images typically produced by conventional x-ray exams. CBCT scans are primarily used to visualize bony structures, such as teeth and your jaws, and not for soft tissues such as your tongue or gums.
2. Benefits: Using a CBCT scan instead of conventional x-rays has certain advantages. A conventional x-ray of your mouth limits your dentist to a two-dimensional visualization. Diagnosis and treatment planning can require a more complete understanding of complex three-dimensional anatomy. The relationship of anatomical structures in three dimensions is important in assessing your condition as well as treatment planning for dental implants, surgical extractions, endodontic treatment, oral surgery, or advanced dental restorative procedures. CT scans may be useful in evaluating and potentially diagnosing conditions that cannot be properly seen with conventional x-rays.
3. Risks:
 - Radiation: CBCT scans, like conventional x-rays, expose you to radiation. The dose of radiation used for CBCT examinations is carefully controlled to ensure the smallest possible amount is used that will still give a useful result. However, all radiation exposure is linked with a slightly higher risk of developing cancer. The advantages of the CBCT scan outweigh this disadvantage.
 - Pregnancy: Women who are pregnant should not undergo a CBCT scan due to the potential danger to the fetus. Please tell the dentist if you are pregnant or planning to become pregnant.
 - CBCT scans cannot be relied on to show soft tissue lesions unless they have caused changes in your hard tissues (teeth or bone).
4. Alternatives: An alternative to a CBCT scan is conventional dental x-rays, however, they have the limitations previously noted.
5. CBCT scans image the entire head and most of the neck. As dentists, we evaluate teeth, jaws and surrounding bone, using the CBCT for those limited purposes. Our training and dental license do not provide for evaluation and diagnosing outside of those areas. We are not physicians or radiologists. While parts of your anatomy beyond your mouth and jaw may be visualized in the scan, your dentist is not qualified to diagnose conditions that may be present in the head and neck beyond the dental zone. By signing this form, you are acknowledging that the CBCT scan will be evaluated solely for the purposes associated with the dental procedures discussed in your treatment plan.

PLEASE DO NOT SIGN THIS FORM UNLESS YOU HAVE READ IT, UNDERSTAND IT, AND AGREE TO ACCEPT THE RISKS AND ADVANTAGES NOTED.

I, _____, certify that I have read the above statement. I understand the procedure to be used and its benefits, risks, and alternatives. I have been given the opportunity to have my questions answered and accept the risks of the CBCT scanning procedure as described above. I therefore give my consent for the CBCT scan.

Signature of Patient, or Legal Guardian: _____ Date: _____

Doctor Signature: _____ Date: _____