



**KANSAS**  
**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & ENVIRONMENT**  
BILL GRAVES, GOVERNOR  
Clyde D. Graeber, Secretary

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October 18, 2001

**KANSAS INFORMATION NOTICE 01-11:**

**FDA PUBLIC HEALTH NOTIFICATION:  
REDUCING RADIATION RISK FROM  
COMPUTED TOMOGRAPHY FOR  
PEDIATRIC AND SMALL ADULT PATIENTS**

**Addressees**

All Kansas Radiologists, Radiation Health Professionals, Risk Managers & Hospital Administrators

**Purpose**

The Kansas Radiation Control Program received the attached notice from the Food & Drug Administration (FDA) to emphasize to addressees the importance of keeping radiation doses during CT procedures as low as reasonably achievable, especially for pediatric and small adult patients, who may sometimes receive more radiation than needed to obtain diagnostic images.

**Description of Circumstances**

Unnecessary radiation may be delivered when CT scanner parameters are not appropriately adjusted for patient size. When a CT scan is performed on a child or small adult with the same technique factors that are used for a typically-sized adult, the small patient receives a significantly larger effective dose than the full-sized patient.

FDA has recommended some steps to protect children and other small patients from unnecessary radiation exposure during CT procedures including optimizing CT settings, reducing the number of multiple scans with contrast material and eliminating inappropriate referrals for CT.

**Discussion**

See the following website for the FDA notice dated November 2, 2001:

<http://www.fda.gov/cdrh/safety/110201-ct.pdf>

This information notice does not require any specific action or written response. If you have any questions about the information in this notice, please do not hesitate to contact this office.