



Approximate fetal effective doses (mSv) arising from common radiological examinations of pregnant patients†

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Examination		1st trimester	3rd trimester
Conventional		·	
Radiography*			
	Skull	<0.01	<0.01
	Chest	<0.01	<0.01
	Cervical spine	<0.01	<0.01
	Thoracic spine	<0.01	<0.01
	Lumbar spine	2	6
	Abdomen	1.5	2.5
	Pelvis	1	2
	Intravenous pyleogram (IVP)	2	10
	Extremities	<0.01	<0.01
	Mammography	<0.01	<0.01
	Barium meal	1	6
	Barium enema	7	25
CT**			
	Head	<0.005	<0.005
	Neck	<0.005	<0.01
	Chest without portal phase	0.1	0.6
	Chest with portal phase	1	7
	Chest (pulmonary embolism)	0.1	0.4
	Chest/abdomen/pelvis	12	13
	Abdomen/pelvis – single phase	12	12
	Abdomen/pelvis – multi phase	15	30
	Thoracic spine	0.2	1.0
	Lumbar spine	10	25
	Pelvimetry	-	0.2

^{*} Based on data from Sharp et al. and simulations using PCXMC code.

†Table reproduced from Annex A of 'Safety Guide: Radiation Protection in Diagnostic and Interventional Radiology', Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency (ARPANSA), Radiation Protection Series 14.1 (2008). Note that all doses should be treated as indicative only as individual doses can differ from the tabulated values by as much as a factor of 10, except for those examinations remote from the lower abdomen.

^{**} Estimates for CT examinations are obtained using the ImPACT dose calculator and typical technique factors.