

FETAL SHIELDING

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

I am pregnant, why are you not shielding my baby?

- Our modern imaging equipment uses much less radiation than in the past.
- Shields can cover up parts of your body that are important for your doctor to see.
- Shields can interfere with how our modern equipment works.

I previously had an imaging exam where shielding was used, why the change in practice?

- The medical community has recently reviewed the use of patient shielding and determined that it is not as effective as once thought.

Doesn't shielding make my baby safer?

- No. The amount of radiation used in most imaging exams is so small that the risk to your baby is either very small or zero.
- No. The amount of radiation we use is much too low to cause pregnancy loss or congenital abnormalities.

But what's the harm in using a shield?

- Shields can interfere with how our modern equipment works.
- Shields can cover up parts of your body that are important for your doctor to see.

Will you still shield me if I want you to?

- We do not recommend using lead shielding during imaging exams.
- But, if you insist that we use a shield, we will honor your request if it is possible to do so without compromising the exam you are having.