

This guideline describes the proper handling, wearing and storage of whole body and extremity dosimeters. These dosimeters are commonly referred to as thermoluminescent dosimeters (TLDs) or optically stimulated luminescent dosimeters (OSL dosimeters). Your dosimeter measures the amount of radiation to which you are exposed.

**At UNSW, the local Radiation Safety Supervisor or Custodian of X-ray equipment liaise with the Health & Safety unit for registration and reading of monitoring badges.**

## HANDLING

1. Dosimeters are issued to individual wearers who are registered with the badge provider. As it is used to determine the dose received by the wearer identified on the badge, **never wear someone else's or loan out yours.**
2. Do not expose the dosimeters to high temperature, water, direct sunlight or fluorescent light.

## WEARING

3. Clip your whole body dosimeter **firmly to your clothing** between your waist and neck. It should be worn underneath protective equipment such as lead aprons.
4. Extremity dosimeters (e.g. rings) should be worn beneath gloves and turned towards the radiation source.
5. If you lose or damage your dosimeter, you should report it to the local Radiation Safety Supervisor and stop working with ionising radiation until you receive a replacement.

## STORAGE

6. Dosimeters are issued to monitor your occupational dose. When you no longer work with the radiation source, they **must be stored with the control badge**. This is necessary to ensure environmental conditions do not adversely affect the monitor and control differently and to reduce the possibility of their loss. This procedure also avoids the delays that frequently arise in returning dosimeters to the radiation monitoring service due to an individual being on leave at the end of a wearing period and not having left the dosimeters in the appropriate storage space.
7. The storage location should be away from sources of radiation and in areas where the background radiation levels are low. Typically, a desk drawer or cabinet in an office area should be selected.
8. Do not store your badge at your workstation or on the lab bench.
9. Do not take your badge home with you.