

- The basic steps of taking an OPG:
 1. Discuss procedure honestly, reassure patient by explaining risk of radiation
 2. Set up QDoc/SIDEXIS, ensure all info is correct, fill in radiation dose etc
 3. Reset the rotating unit, select required programming
 4. Put hygienic cover on bite block and open head supports, Adjust height to approx. pts height
 5. Ask patient to remove any jewellery or foreign metal objects on head and neck.
 6. Press up and down on unit to adjust height of bite block, slightly higher than pts chin. Ask patient to step into machine, grip the handgrips, ensure they're standing tall, place gentle upward and forward force on back of their head.
 7. Ask patient to position upper and lower anterior teeth onto bite block, check properly. For edentulous (full or partially), positioning aids e.g. chin rest or bar, and cotton rolls available.
 8. Instruct patient to close eyes, press laser to initiate laser alignment lights, verify head isn't tilted
 9. Use up and down buttons to adjust height so patients Frankfurt plane is parallel to floor. Check mid-sagittal plane perpendicular to floor using mirror guide. Check patients occlusal plane slightly inclined towards the front.
 10. After positioning pts head, push units head support immobilisers – ensure firm grip
 11. Prior to exposure, check pts holding hand grips, support pts head position w gentle pressure on head
 12. Instruct patient to exhale, raise the entire tongue against roof of mouth, swallow, hold position until the end. Take x-ray while keeping an eye on patient.
 - a. In children, also tell them to keep eyes closed or keep eye on a fixed spot in front of them bc tendency to follow you with their eyes & whole head.



Panoramic radiographic errors:

- We can understand errors by understanding what went wrong and correcting it.
- Patient positioning:
 - o Non-anatomical (artefact) shadows. These are white opacities on xray, caused by jewellery.
 - E.g. dental earrings (pic 1), tongue bar (pic2), necklaces (pic 3), glasses. Also, hearing aids etc.
 - Correct this error: Always ask pt to remove anything removable.
 - o Head/chin tilt 'too low'
 - Joker smile.
 - Correct this error by positioning patient in Frankfurt plane.



- o Head/chin tilt 'too high'
 - Waved shape occlusal plane. Yellow dotted line
 - Flat smile line with mandible squared off. Blurs maxillary incisors and shortens mandibular rami, condyles appear at edges.
 - 'frowning artefact face'
 - Correct this by ensuring Frankfurt plane parallel to floor, and verify bite block seated and not lifted by patient.

