

DEXA (Dual Energy X-Ray Absorptiometry)

Purpose:

To measure bone mineral density and assess risk of fracture.

How long will this procedure take?

Allow 10 - 20 minutes.

Preparation:

- None.
- Table weight limit: 300 lbs.
- A DEXA Scan *cannot* be performed:
 - Within 1 - 2 weeks following a study utilizing oral contrast (GI Series, CT Scan, etc.)
 - Within 72 hours after any Nuclear Medicine study.
 - Within 48 hours after taking calcium tablets.

Procedure:

You will lie on your back to be scanned; the computer will create an image of your spine and hips from the scan.

If you are unable to lie down, or for those patients in excess of the table weight limit, we are able to perform a tableside scan of the forearm.

After the examination:

A report will be sent to your physician within 24 hours.