



Department of Radiology  
Raymond and Ruth Perelman Center for Advanced Medicine  
Civic Center Boulevard, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Philadelphia, PA 19104

## **Patient Prep & Instruction Manual**

### **Scheduled Test: Bone Dexascan**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Time: \_\_\_\_\_

**Where:** Patients should report to Outpatient Radiology on the ground floor of the Perelman Center. Bring any paperwork with you concerning this exam.

**Purpose:** This test detects bone density. The radiologist will interpret the results of the scan. The dexascan enables the radiologist to detect bone loss, which leads to osteoporosis. The scan is pain free and non-invasive, and you are not enclosed or encased by the equipment. The amount of radiation is minimal, due to the low radiation level the radiographer is able to remain in the room with the patient during the scan.

**Preparation:** There is no preparation for the test. You may follow your normal diet and medication routine, although calcium supplements should be withheld until after study is completed. However, there are two limitations:

1. Your weight cannot exceed 350 lbs for the scanner or accurate results cannot be achieved.
2. You cannot have had any other oral or IV contrast studies done before.

**Procedure:** The scan takes approximately 30 minutes.

Wear loose comfortable clothing. Belts must be removed and pockets emptied. You may be asked to change into a hospital gown; zippers and snaps interfere with the scan.

Your lower back and right hip are scanned. If you have femoral rods, spinal rods, or have had a hip replacement, please inform the radiographer so that an alternative scan of forearm can be taken.

You will be asked to lie on your back. A large firm cushion is placed under your knees to assist you in lying flat for the spine scan. Patients find the cushion quite comfortable.

While scanning your hip area you will lie flat on your back and have your right leg turned slightly inward. The equipment moves above you without touching you and does not make a noise.

After Care: You may resume your normal activities.

Please call (215) 662-4550 for more information on the dexascan.