

Medical Imaging

X-RAY Exams

A Patient Information Guide

X-ray is a quick painless test used to produce images of the inside of your body. The two most common X-rays are bone and chest. Bone X-rays are the fastest way to assess broken bones and play a key role in guiding orthopedic surgery. Chest X-rays are usually done for the evaluation of lungs, heart and chest wall. Pneumonia, heart failure, emphysema and lung cancer can be diagnosed or suspected on a chest X-ray.

X-rays involve exposing a specific part of the body to a small dose of radiation, the amount being a slight fraction of radiation we encounter during our daily lives such as ultraviolet rays of the sun or uranium found in soil etc. It is important for women to advise the X-ray Technologist if there is any possibility that they are pregnant.

In conjunction with other Medical Imaging such as CT, MRI, Ultrasound and Bone Scans, X-rays play an important role in detecting arthritis as well as different forms of cancers.

The process of X-rays:

- A referral will be sent to the Medical Imaging department.
- A clerical staff member will call the patient to book an appointment.
- On the day of the exam be sure to arrive 15 min prior to appointment time to register.
- You will be asked by the Technologist to change into a loose-fitting gown and remove all jewelry and metal.
- Once the images are complete, a Radiologist will view the X-ray images and send a signed report to the referring practitioner or physician.
- Your referring practitioner or physician will notify you of the final results.



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