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PATIENT PREPARATION/BONE DENSITY TEST

Please be prepared to fill out an information questionnaire prior to exam.

Please be aware that these Bone Density Appointments are scheduled and the Radiology Department at the hospital would appreciate patients arriving only at their scheduled time.

Patients should not have had a barium study, radioisotope injection, or an oral or IV contrast material from a CT scan or MRI within 7 days prior to their DEXA exam.

Patient should wear loose, comfortable clothing. Sweat suits and casual attire without zippers, buttons, grommets, metal hooks, or underwire bra. Gowns are available, if necessary.

Patients can eat normally on the day of their exam, but should avoid taking calcium supplements (Fosamax, Evista) or a multivitamin for at least 24 hours prior to their appointment.

Patients lie comfortably still on a padded table while the DEXA unit scans 2 or more areas, usually the fracture prone hip and spine.

Medicare patients may be asked to sign a waiver to accept financial responsibility in the event that Medicare does not cover the Bone Density Test.

Please be aware that Medicare will only cover this test every 2 years.

Patient's weight should not exceed 275 pounds due to the table restrictions.

All patients should check in with the Main Hospital Registration.