

DEXA Pediatric Guideline



Patient Prep:

- 1) Every patient must have a fully completed DXA questionnaire.
- 2) Know your DXA machines maximum weight capacity at your site and do not exceed it.
- 3) Each patient shall disrobe fully and be placed into a gown prior to scanning.
- 4) Remove all artifacts, if possible, prior to scanning (i.e. naval rings, bra clips, coins, buttons/snaps, etc)
- 5) Each patient shall have their weight and height taken by the technologist/nurse prior to scanning and entered into the DXA unit. Select Pediatric under patient biography.
- 6) Make certain that the patient's age, sex, ethnicity and historical data are accurate and entered as appropriate into the DXA system.

Procedure:

- 1) If patient is small, less than 100lbs, then Express mode should be used. If pediatric is over 100lbs or size of adult, then use fast array or mode according to weight. (Minimize radiation dose if possible without not compromising detail)
 - A. L1 – L4 Spine
 - B. Whole Body minus Head
 - C. Pediatric patients need to be age 7-19
 - D. Need to make sure whole body minus head is used for analysis.
- 2) If cannot obtain spine because of surgery or artifact then non dominant forearm can be done.

Note: If patient comes back and is now an adult then edit patient and change ethnicity from pediatric to proper ethnicity. If this is not done, there will not be T-scores or Z-scores.