

RADIOGRAPHY

Radiography refers to diagnostic exams that use x-rays to produce images of the human body. The most basic of the radiography exams are the diagnostic x-ray procedures. Although common, the x-ray has been called one of the most significant advances in all of medical history and is used in most every field of medicine to diagnosis a variety of conditions. X-rays are a type of radiant energy, similar to light or radio waves. They are capable of penetrating the body, making it possible to capture pictures of internal structures. As a quick burst of radiation passes through the body, and based on its energy and the composition and density of body tissues, the image is produced on a special imaging plate. This plate is fed into a computer and an image is produced.

What to expect during an exam

The technologist will help you get situated on the patient table. The x-ray equipment is located above the table. As the exam begins, the technologist may ask you to adjust your position in order to capture the desired images. You will be instructed to hold still by the technologist and will be given further instructions. The process is quick and painless.

Limited radiation exposure

You will be exposed to a very small amount of radiation during an x-ray. The technologists are trained to use the minimum amount of radiation to produce the desired image.

Length and preparation for exam

Generally, x-ray exams take just a few minutes. However, depending on the area of the body to be x-rayed and the number of images to be generated, it could take longer.

Getting results

After an x-ray exam, a radiologist will analyze and interpret the images and prepare a report. The report will be sent to your physician who will share the results with you. To request a copy of the written report, please contact your physician's office.

Important reminder

Please do not bring siblings or small children to your procedure