# **Digital X-Ray**

X-ray imaging is a painless medical test that helps physicians diagnose and treat various conditions such as determining whether a bone has been fractured, locating foreign objects, and assisting in the detection and diagnosis of cancer.

# What to Expect During Your Appointment



#### **Metallic Materials**

All metallic materials and certain clothing around the body should be removed as they may interfere with the procedure or clarity of the images.

# Short Exam Time

An x-ray exam typically takes between five to ten minutes.

#### **Remaining Still**

Help us ensure picture clarity by remaining still. You may be asked to keep from breathing for a few seconds while the x-ray picture is taken.

#### **Get Your Results**

Our center will contact your physician once your images are produced. Only your physician can discuss your results with you.

#### **Repositioning For Another View**

You may be repositioned for another view and the process is repeated. Two or three images (from different angles) will typically be taken.

# **Common X-ray Applications**

X-rays help diagnose fractured bones, look for injury or infection and locate foreign objects in soft tissue.

Different parts of the body absorb x-rays differently. Dense bone absorbs more radiation than soft tissue, such as muscle, fat and organs, as it allows more of the x-rays to pass through.

As a result, bones appear white on the x-ray while soft tissue shows up in shades of gray and air appears black.

Most images are now digital files that are stored electronically and easily accessible. These images are frequently compared to past x-ray images for diagnosis and disease management.





#### **EXAMINATION PREPARATION**

# It is extremely important that you follow these instructions for your exam.

# How to Prepare For Your Appointment



#### **Eating Normally**

Prior to your exam you may eat normally.

#### **Taking Medications**

You may continue to take any medication prescribed by your doctor.

#### **Wearing Of Accessories**

You will be asked to remove all jewelry, glasses, hearing aids, hair pins, and other metallic objects. We provide you with your own locker for your belongings. You may also be asked to remove dentures and wigs.

#### **Clothing For The Exam**

For your convenience, please dress appropriately. Consider wearing comfortable clothing that does not have any zippers, clasps, or metallic decoration. You may be asked to wear a cloth gown.

# Alert Your Physician or An Elite Radiology Group Staff Member

Women should always inform their physician and technologist if there is any possibility that they are pregnant. Many imaging tests are not performed during pregnancy so as not to expose the fetus to radiation. If an x-ray is necessary, precautions will be taken to minimize radiation exposure to the baby.



