

eRAD Bone Density/DEXA: Scheduling Guide & Exam Codes

Last Modified on 06/12/2025 12:29 pm EDT



Bone Density/DEXA: Scheduling Guide & Exam Codes

Purpose: This guide provides accurate scheduling support for Bone Density/DEXA exams across all Washington Radiology locations. Use this resource to confirm **exam type**, **location restrictions**, **patient prep**, and **important scheduling reminders**.

Location Availability Summary:

- **ALL** Washington Radiology locations
 - Exception: Sterling does NOT perform DEXA VFA exams

Important Reminders:

- Always confirm that the exam is for a Bone Density/DEXA, not a Nuclear Medicine Bone Scan
- Whole body scans are **NOT** performed at Washington Radiology
- Sterling **does not** perform DEXA VFA scans as of **10/30/2024**
- If patient recently had a contrast study (CT, MRI, or Barium), ensure 7-day clearance before scheduling
- Clearly advise patients of **prep instructions** during the scheduling call, including the **weight limit** for the machine where the patient is scheduled

Quick Reference: Exam Types & Guidelines

| Exam Code | Exam Description | When to Use | Location(s) & Rules | Prep & Notes |
|-----------|------------------|-------------|---------------------|--------------|
|-----------|------------------|-------------|---------------------|--------------|

| | | | |
|-----|---------------------|--|---|
| 49 | Bone Density | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Routine screening for osteoporosis • Diagnostic purposes (e.g., post-menopausal women, personal history of fracture, conditions associated with bone loss, use of medications known to cause bone loss, etc.) | No metal buttons or zippers below the waist. No calcium supplements the day of or the day before the exam. Patient must wait 7 days from their last barium contrast exam before scheduling a bone density exam. |
| 142 | Bone Density w/ IVA | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When VFA or IVA is ordered in addition to standard Bone Density/DEXA exam | No metal buttons or zippers below the waist. No calcium supplements the day of or the day before the exam. Patient must wait 7 days from their last barium contrast exam before scheduling a bone density exam. |

EDITED: 06/12/2025
