

Diagnostic Imaging Center

Digital Radiography

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Digital Radiography is an advanced system in which x-rays pass through your body, bones, tissues, and organs, which allows us to create two-dimensional digital images using a computer. Although this test makes use of radiation, the potential benefits outweigh the risks in all cases. X-rays can help diagnose, monitor, and treat many medical conditions.

What to bring on the day of your appointment:

- Radiology request form
- Civil ID
- Insurance card
- Any previous x-rays, CD and reports for tests you may have undergone elsewhere, for comparison purposes.

Preparation:

- You don't need to do anything special to prepare for an X-ray. You can eat and drink normally and can continue taking your usual medications.
- For some X-ray examinations, you will be asked to change into a gown. In addition to this, you may also be asked to remove jewelry, eyeglasses, dentures, or any metal objects that might interfere with the images in the region of interest.
- **For females**, in the reproductive age group, it is better to get your x-ray done **within 10 days** of the onset of your menstrual period.

On the day of the appointment:

- Please arrive at the Diagnostic Imaging Reception **at least 30 minutes** before your test. **Failing to attend within 20 minutes of the given appointment time will unfortunately lead to its cancellation.**
- X-ray examinations can also be performed without a prior appointment. However, patients may be required to wait for some time.
- Parent or guardian of patient **younger than 18 years** of age must accompany the patient.
- If there is any possibility of pregnancy, please talk to your doctor and inform the reception at the time of appointment.
- **For female**, you may sign a pregnancy consent form before starting the exam.
- Parent or guardian of patient younger than 18 years of age will sign pediatric consent form for x-ray radiography.

Generally, examinations take about 10 to 20 minutes to complete.

For your safety:

- The risk for all imaging procedures is relatively low and with no adverse effects.
- The benefit of getting an accurate diagnosis for proper treatment by your doctor outweighs the risk of the minimal radiation exposure.
- Imaging is done only when there is a clear medical benefit.
- Unnecessary and unindicated x-ray examination should be totally avoided.
- **Lead shielding** is used appropriately depending on the type and region of the interest to reduce exposure to other parts of your body. Only the area indicated by your doctor will be imaged.
- **For women who are likely to be pregnant**, it is very important to tell your doctor before getting an X-ray. Depending on the medical need, the x-rays will be done right away or postponed to a later day. In case you have to get an X-ray while pregnant, extra caution will be taken to protect the baby from the radiation. In general, for all women in reproductive age group, the ‘ten-day rule’ is followed. This means that whenever possible, it is safer to get your X-ray or OPG done within the first ten days of the onset of menstruation.
- Much care is taken in order to follow the **ALARA** principle, which means the exposure is kept ‘**As Low As Reasonably Achievable**’ to ensure minimum dose to the patient without compromising the diagnostic image accuracy.

After your test:

You are free to continue with your normal activities after the test is finished. You will be informed about when you will receive your results at the reception.

FOR ANY INQUIRIES OR CANCELLATIONS

CALL CENTER

+965 2224 2999 ext. 7000, 7001

WHATSAPP

+965 6505 5011 (for messaging)

HOTLINE:

+965 1877877

WEBSITE

www.dasmaninstitute.org

Updated: Sep 2026