

## TWO SCAN SITES: Spine and Bilateral Hips

- If unable to scan spine or hips, substitute non-dominant forearm as second site
  - If patient had fracture or surgery in non-dominant forearm, scan dominant forearm and make note on DXA Patient Screening Questionnaire or in EMR

## CONTRAINDICATIONS: Recent Contrast or Radioactive Materials

- Patients undergoing recent procedure with oral or IV contrast in CT or Diagnostic Radiology should wait at least one week before DXA exam
  - No delay for DXA exam for patients undergoing recent procedure with gadolinium-based contrast in MRI
- Patients undergoing recent Nuclear Medicine study should wait at least one week before DXA exam

## STANDARD POSITIONING FOR SPINE

- Use foam leg block on ALL spine scans for consistency
- Use top four non-rib bearing vertebrae as L1-L4
  - If patient has six lumbar vertebrae, count from L1 down to assure correct region of interest
- Image rib coming off T12

## TRENDING/ANALYZING

- Import manually prior study only if patient not found in machine database (i.e., prior study performed on different machine)
  - Exams from different machines may not be accurate
  - To date, equipment can be compared only between Novant Health Imaging Maplewood and Novant Health Imaging Piedmont
- If importing manually, enter L1-L4 range at minimum
- If importing manually and block not used for prior study (which includes Novant Health Imaging Piedmont prior to July 2012), check "One scan" foam leg block option for trending only
- If prior study not available and report must be dictated as L2-L4, change current study to analyze L2-L4 only for comparison
  - When patient returns for subsequent study, data will be available to analyze L1-L4
- If prior study analyzed incorrectly, do NOT go back and re-analyze unless grossly incorrect such as metal in spine

## SECONDARY TAB

- Enter menopause age
  - If patient underwent partial hysterectomy and does not know menopause age, use 50 as average
- Enter tech initials for future reference

## DEVIATION FROM STANDARD PROTOCOL

- If technologist must deviate from standard protocol for any reason, contact MSK radiologist for further instruction