

# ALBERTA SERVICE UPDATE

January 2026

## AVAILABILITIES

We currently have relatively immediate booking availabilities for the following exams at these clinic locations.

- **Screening mammograms** at our Beacon Heights, Coventry Hills, Castleridge, Mahogany Village, Sunpark, Sunridge and Westbrook clinics
- **Bone mineral densitometry (BMD)** exams at our Aspen Landing, Beacon Heights, Coventry Hills, Castleridge, Market Mall, Sunridge and Westbrook clinics. It is highly recommended that patients return to the clinic at which they had a prior BMD exam if applicable.
- **Bone scan exams (nuclear medicine)** at Mayfair Place, Mahogany Village and Sunpark clinics
- **Thyroid scan** (nuclear medicine) at our Mayfair Place clinic
- **General ultrasound** exams at Crowfoot, Coventry Hills, Mayfair Place and Market Mall
- **Myocardial perfusion imaging (MPI)** and **exercise stress test (EST)** at our Mayfair Place clinic
- **Whole body MRI imaging** at our Mayfair Place clinic

## UPDATED APPROACH FOR MECHANICAL BACK PAIN

After thorough review of current practices and literature, we've updated our approach to imaging for mechanical back pain that has not improved with conservative treatment. Moving forward, we will no longer be offering ultrasound as the initial diagnostic tool in these cases. Mechanical back pain can have many different causes, and imaging methods such as X-rays, MRI, or CT scans often provide more detailed and accurate information to help identify the underlying issue of mechanical back pain.

We will continue to offer head and neck ultrasound for concerns of the thyroid, salivary glands, and lymph nodes, as well as assessments for lumps and bumps. We will also continue to offer MSK assessments of the back and neck for indications other than mechanical pain.

Our team is here to support you in finding the most suitable diagnostic options and our musculoskeletal radiologists remain available to discuss appropriate imaging methods to ensure your patients receive the best possible care. Please contact your Strategic Partnership Manager with any questions.

**Note:** Any appointments already booked for a MSK ultrasound for mechanical back pain will proceed as requested.

## ULTRASOUNDS FOR PATIENTS WITH CATHETERS

We have revised our directions for patients with Foley/indwelling catheters having a pelvis, abdomen/pelvis, kidney & bladder, or pelvis/KUB ultrasounds. Patients are advised to clamp the catheter 1.5 hours before the appointment and drink 1 litre of water. The patient should complete drinking all the water 1 hour prior to the appointment and keep the catheter clamped until the exam is complete. Patients will be provided with this direction as part of the booking process. Prep instructions can also be found at [physicians.radiology.ca](https://physicians.radiology.ca).

## BILATERAL BREAST ULTRASOUNDS WITH ADDED MAMMOGRAMS

When presented with a requisition for a bilateral breast ultrasound, our radiologist may also elect to perform a diagnostic mammogram to provide the most ideal imaging for the patient. Also, breast ultrasounds should only be requested for diagnostic needs and not for screening. Current literature continues to endorse mammograms as the gold standard for screening purposes.

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## PAIN THERAPY PROCEDURES

Upon receiving a requisition for pain procedures, we will triage the request and then contact the patient to schedule their appointment. Please do not direct patients to contact Mayfair before we have completed this triage process. We will ensure the patient is contacted as quickly as possible.

## ASR BREAST PRACTICES: NAVIGATING GUIDELINES IN PRIMARY CARE

The Alberta Society of Radiologists is hosting a free webinar on Monday January 26 from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm. This clinically focused webinar is designed to help primary care providers build their knowledge of breast cancer screening in Alberta. Covered in the webinar will be a session on appropriate breast imaging. To learn more about the webinar or to register, please visit **radiologists.ab.ca/events**.

## FAX NUMBERS FOR REQUISITIONS

When faxing requisitions to Mayfair, please use the designated fax numbers listed below. These numbers are also available at the top of our requisition forms and on our website at **physicians.radiology.ca**. Using any other Mayfair fax numbers may result in processing delays.

- Fax General Requisition, Pain Management, Cardiac, Vascular at **403-777-3001**
- Fax MRI & CT at **403-777-3198**

## EMAIL FOR UPDATES

To improve communication and deliver updates more quickly, we recommend using email instead of fax for updates. If you'd like to start receiving updates by email, please send your name, company name, and preferred email address to **bd@radiology.ca**. If you're already receiving updates by email, no further action is required. Please note: Patient exam reports cannot be sent via email.

## YOUR MAYFAIR TEAM

Your Strategic Partnerships Managers are here to provide you with personalized service and answer questions. To contact us, visit **physicians.radiology.ca** or email **bd@radiology.ca**.

**Thank you for your continued partnership.**