

ALBERTA SERVICE UPDATE

May 2026

AVAILABILITIES

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

- **Screening-only mammograms** at our Aspen Landing, Beacon Heights, Crowfoot, Coventry Hills, Castleridge, Southcentre, Sunpark, and Sunridge clinics.
- **Bone mineral densitometry (BMD)** exams at our Aspen Landing, Beacon Heights, Coventry Hills, Castleridge, Market Mall, Mahogany Village, and Sunridge 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
- Thirty-minute **general ultrasound exams** at our Coventry Hills, Cochrane, Castleridge and Sunridge clinics.
- **Myocardial perfusion imaging (MPI)** and exercise stress test (EST) at our Mayfair Place clinic
- **Whole body MRI imaging** at our Mayfair Place clinic

AXIAL BACK PAIN

You will find a referral guide for axial back pain at physicians.radiology.ca/services/nuclear-medicine-imaging. The guide will walk you through the imaging pathway using bone SPECT/CT to identify pain generators and targeted treatment while your patient awaits further imaging such as MRI. To learn more about this guide, please contact your Strategic Partnerships Manager or visit physicians.radiology.ca.

CHANGE - TMJ DIAGNOSTIC APPROACH

After careful review, we recently updated our diagnostic approach for imaging temporomandibular joint disorders. Due to the deep intra-articular location of the TMJ disc and the adjacent osseous structures, ultrasound is significantly limited in evaluation of TMJ disc morphology, tears and often location of disc displacement. Ultrasound is also unable to assess the osseous components of the joint. Frequently, TMJ ultrasound provides limited diagnostic value.

Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) remains the gold standard in assessment of TMJ disorders due to its superior soft tissue contrast, definitive assessment of disc morphology and location, as well as superior assessment of articular cartilage and bone marrow.

We will continue to offer ultrasound when there is a specific request for Doppler interrogation to assess for synovitis in the setting of inflammatory arthritis. Please indicate inflammatory arthritis in the clinical history when submitting a requisition for these cases. Please note, the exam will not include any comments on the joint disc.

BMD CRITERIA - 24 MONTHS

To align with Alberta Health Care criteria, we advise that bone mineral density exams for patients aged 50 and over can only be performed once every 24 months from the date of the patient's last BMD.

When requesting less than 24 months between BMD exams, patients must meet the following criteria regardless of referrer, including specialists.

1. Patients being monitored during "bisphosphonate holiday"
2. Patient on therapy in whom there are clinical features to question drug effect (i.e. fracture while on therapy)
3. Patient is post-transplant
4. Patient has hyperparathyroidism
5. Patient on supraphysiologic prednisone longer than 12 months

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“High risk” status or initiation of bisphosphonate therapy cannot be accepted as criteria for performing BMD exams less than 2 years apart.

Patients under 50 years of age can be referred by a specialist with the following specialties:

- Endocrinology/Metabolism, Gastroenterology, General Surgery, Internal Medicine, Nephrology, Orthopedic, Pediatric (including subspecialties), Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation or Rheumatology
- Nurse practitioners and physicians that are part of Cancer Control Alberta may refer patients under 50 years of age who are a high risk of bone density loss – requisition must indicate the patient’s risk.

Should you have any questions about the BMD criteria and timing of exams, please reach out to your Strategic Partnerships Manager or email at bd@radiology.ca.

HISTORY ON REQUISITIONS

Including patient history that matches the requested exam is important when completing a requisition. If the history doesn’t match the exam being ordered or if the history is incomplete, bookings may be delayed until we can connect with you to confirm details.

Please include the relevant history related to the exam for a speedier booking process. If multiple exams are requested, please include history for all exams. We also require the patient’s provincial health care number be included on the requisition to book the exam.

NPAA & AUNP CONFERENCE

If you are attending the upcoming Nurse Practitioner Association of Alberta and Alberta Union of Nurse Practitioner’s annual conference in Canmore on May 29-30, stop by the Mayfair Diagnostics booth to connect with us.

JING TIAN - NEW TO YOUR STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS TEAM

We are pleased to introduce our newest Strategic Partnership Manager, Jing Tian, who will be supporting our referrer community primarily in Northeast Calgary, as well as the surrounding areas of Airdrie, Strathmore, Chestermere, and Langdon.

Jing Tian brings almost twelve years of experience with Mayfair, most recently serving as Clinic Manager at our Beacon Heights location and previously as Assistant Manager at our Castleridge clinic.

Our Strategic Partnership Managers are dedicated to providing personalized support and are always available to answer any questions you may have.

For more information on how to contact us, visit physicians.radiology.ca or email bd@radiology.ca.

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Thank you for your continued partnership.