

Service Update re Covid-19 pandemic – Sept 2021

The York Nuffield DEXA service re-opened after the lockdown at York Nuffield Health in August 2020.

In November 2020 there were around 900 DEXA patients on the waiting list. The backlog has now been managed and waiting time for appointments are now operating at a pre-pandemic level.

DEXA scans are performed in chronological order of request.

A new approach to use Royal Osteoporosis Society (ROS) guidelines to prioritise patients when referring for a DEXA scan has helped us to deal with the DEXA back log and provide a scan according to the clinical urgency.

Below is a priority list for the ROS guidance as per the DEXA restoration toolkit:

PRIORITY 1: Book in the first instance	PRIORITY 2: Book after priority 1 patients
High fracture risk or fragility fracture	Baseline scans for AI, GnRH, liver disease, coeliac
High dose glucocorticoids	Surveillance scans in liver disease
Vertebral or hip fracture	Scans in those being treated for osteoporosis
New fracture on treatment	Research scans
Urgent treatment decision	

Any clinical urgency for a DEXA scan should be clearly specified on the referral. This scan will then be prioritised and performed in front of a chronological queue.

Any queries or any change in priority please notify this change to the radiology booking team in York Nuffield hospital.

Many thanks for your help with this, Nuffield Radiology department DEXA service.
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