

Effective radiation dose in adults

Following are comparisons of effective radiation dose in adults with background radiation exposure for several radiological procedures described within this website.

For this procedure:	* An adult's approximate effective radiation dose is:	Comparable to natural background radiation for:
ABDOMINAL REGION:		
Computed Tomography (CT)-Abdomen and Pelvis	10 mSv	3 years
Computed Tomography (CT)-Abdomen and Pelvis, repeated with and without contrast material	20 mSv	7 years
Computed Tomography (CT)-Colonography	6 mSv	2 years
Intravenous Pyelogram (IVP)	3 mSv	1 year
Radiography (X-ray)-Lower GI Tract	8 mSv	3 years
Radiography (X-ray)-Upper GI Tract	6 mSv	2 years
BONE:		
Radiography (X-ray)-Spine	1.5 mSv	6 months
Radiography (X-ray)-Extremity	0.001 mSv	3 hours
CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM:		
Computed Tomography (CT)-Head	2 mSv	8 months
Computed Tomography (CT)-Head, repeated with and without contrast material	4 mSv	16 months
Computed Tomography (CT)-Spine	6 mSv	2 years
CHEST:		
Computed Tomography (CT)-Chest	7 mSv	2 years
Computed Tomography (CT)-Lung Cancer Screening	1.5 mSv	6 months
Radiography-Chest	0.1 mSv	10 days
DENTAL:		
Intraoral X-ray	0.005 mSv	1 day
HEART:		
Coronary Computed Tomography Angiography (CTA)	12 mSv	4 years
Cardiac CT for Calcium Scoring	3 mSv	1 year
MEN'S IMAGING:		
Bone Densitometry (DEXA)	0.001 mSv	3 hours
NUCLEAR MEDICINE:		
Positron Emission Tomography – Computed Tomography (PET/CT)	25 mSv	8 years
WOMEN'S IMAGING:		
Bone Densitometry (DEXA)	0.001 mSv	3 hours
Mammography	0.4 mSv	7 weeks