Body Composition Analysis
using DXA Technology
from GE Healthcare
Fat matters...
where matters more.

Looking beyond the bathroom scale

Accurate measurement of body composition provides valuable information for assessing, monitoring and treating a variety of diseases and disorders.

Most people are used to stepping on a scale before every visit to a doctor’s examining room. But monitoring patients’ weight – while helpful – is at best a crude and imprecise way to assess their health. Today’s body composition measurement tools provide far more complete and precise information that can help support diagnoses and guide treatment. They can even help athletes make decisions on the training regimens they use to achieve the best performance.

Body composition measurement with dual-energy X-ray absorptiometry (DXA) can look beyond weight and the traditional body mass index (BMI) to determine body fat distribution – an important risk factor in a variety of serious diseases. More broadly speaking, information from DXA exams can prove valuable in conditions, such as:

- Obesity
- Anorexia nervosa
- Cystic fibrosis
- Wasting syndrome (caused by HIV/Aids)
- Chronic renal failure

In all these cases, body composition measurement contributes to a thorough patient evaluation and helps physicians monitor the effects of therapy, diet or exercise.

Body composition scans with DXA provide precise and accurate data on bone and tissue composition, including bone mineral density (BMD), lean tissue mass, and fat tissue mass. They provide both total body data and regional results (trunk, arms, legs, pelvis and android/gynoid regions). The measurements are fast and non invasive.
Clinical obesity

Obesity is linked to many debilitating and life-threatening disorders. Body mass index gives a simple anthropometric measurement of obesity, but data shows that the regional distribution of excess body fat is an important independent risk factor.\(^1\)

Those at greatest risk are now thought to be those with central obesity – high levels of upper body (abdominal) fat.\(^2\)

- Worldwide obesity has more than doubled since 1980
- More than 1.9 billion adults, 18 years and older, are overweight. Of these, over 600 million are obese\(^{13}\)
Assessment of body composition is important in evaluating and managing severe eating disorders such as anorexia. It is well known that women with anorexia nervosa more easily develop osteoporosis.\(^5\)

Patients with anorexia lose a substantial amount of lean tissue, accounting for from 15% to 45% of the loss of total body mass. Much of this loss in lean tissue is muscle. Physicians treating anorexia use body composition with DXA to:

a) evaluate disease severity by setting target values of lean and fat
b) monitor changes in both lean and fat compartments
c) measure the effectiveness of nutritional interventions.\(^7\)

As one study found, ”A key advantage of DXA is that changes in bone mineral density, fat and lean mass can be monitored. Weight scale measures general weight change, but without specific differentiation of changes in fat and lean mass for the total body or in various regions of interest.”\(^8\)

Nutritional therapies must not only increase fat tissue, but must also re-establish the normal relationship of fat to lean tissue. Young women with eating disorders have an increased risk for osteopenia, and osteoporotic fractures later in life.\(^8\)

Studies show that change in whole body lean-tissue mass correlates strongly with change in body weight after hemodialysis. Renal failure also affects the skeletal constitution: Patients with renal dysfunctions are at significantly higher risk of primary and secondary osteoporosis.\(^9\)

Wasting syndrome, defined as weight less than 90% of ideal body weight, is a devastating disease and a consequence of HIV infections.\(^10\) Accurate determination of body composition with DXA has value in assessing the extent of gender-specific muscle wasting and fat loss. The information can be used to monitor the effects of pharmacological and nutritional programs aimed at preventing or treating wasting syndrome of AIDS/HIV.\(^10\)
Helping athletes make decisions on training regimens

The value of body composition measurement is not limited to treating illnesses – it can help some of the healthiest. Most athletes benefit from a lean body composition (low body fat percentage). In general, body fat beyond the amount needed for good health reduces efficiency. Athletes can achieve the body composition they desire through training and a proper diet.

Experts say the key is to track how much body fat athletes lose instead of relying on the bathroom scale. Height/weight tables based on BMI do not distinguish muscle from fat and so are not useful for highperforming athletics. A recent study in the United States by Oates et al. suggest that “DXA values may be more fundamental and less affected by anthropometric variables, or at least more precisely determined than the values for the other techniques”.

For highly trained athletes, even a small change in body composition can significantly affect performance. Body composition monitoring provides valuable information that athletes and their trainers can use to adjust diet and training regimens. Body composition measurement helps establish a starting point and a target, helping any athlete to pursue a specific goal.
Physicians today use DXA for body composition because it accurately shows exactly where fat is distributed throughout the body. Lunar DXA systems directly measure and calculate total fat, lean and bone tissue, instead of estimating body composition.

DXA systems must perform at the highest precision possible. In fact, experts agree that in monitoring patients over time, it is crucial to get consistent results. Lunar DXA systems are backed by numerous studies that demonstrate high accuracy and precision in total body measurement.12

The precision of Lunar DXA systems is enabled by TruView image reconstruction technology, which eliminates the magnification and distortion inherent in traditional wide-angle fan-beam technology. TruView assesses the size of the anatomy accurately without making assumptions, providing true area and body composition measurements.

When measuring total body composition it is critical to take the entire body into account: bone, fat, and lean tissue. Lunar DXA systems calibrate across a full range of values, rather than calibrating to an average patient.
GE Healthcare’s Windows®-based enCORE software platform offers a range of body composition applications:

**Body Composition Applications**

**Body Composition – Total/Regional**
- Allows measurement of the regional and whole body lean and fat tissue mass, and calculates other derivative values which can be displayed in user-defined statistical formats and trends, and be compared to reference populations at the sole discretion of the healthcare professional.

**Composer**
- Composer feature provides many pre-generated report formats as well as ability to create custom reports.

**Custom Regions of Interest (ROI)**
- Allows the operator to define custom regions of interest (ROI) in a total body scan and measure lean and fat tissue along with BMC for the region.

**Color Coding**
- Color coding can be used to code bone, lean tissue and fat tissue. Color Coding feature is available with Lunar iDXA, and Prodigy enhanced or basic.

**MirrorImage Scan**
- The MirrorImage function can be used to estimate the total body composition and bone mineral density (BMD) when regions of the body are outside of the scan window by using scanned data from the corresponding region(s) on the opposite half of the body.

**Android and Gynoid Ratio (A/G Ratio)**
- Android and Gynoid Composition ROIs are available in software that allows the calculation of the Android/Gynoid (A/G) ratio which is the ratio between the %Fat of the Android (central) and %Fat of the Gynoid (hip and thigh) regions.

**CoreScan™ (Estimated VAT)**
- CoreScan software feature estimates the VAT (Visceral Adipose Tissue) mass and volume within the android region. The values can be displayed in user-defined statistical formats and trends.

**Custom Reference Population**
- Healthcare providers can create a custom reference population and use that population for comparison to their patients’ results.

**Color Mapping**
- Color Mapping can be used to set threshold adjustments on fat %.

**Composition Trending**
- Ability to trend total body as well as region lean, & fat tissue and BMC over time for the same patient.

**Multi-user Database Access**
- Allows multiple users to access and analyze data from the same patient database.

**Sarcopenia**
- Sarcopenia software calculates values based on published definitions and thresholds using measured appendicular lean mass in combination with patient demographics and entered values of muscle strength and physical performance.

**BMI (Body Mass Index)**
- Displays BMI measure in Kg/m² based on WHO BMI classification:
  - Underweight (<18.5 BMI)
  - Normal (18.5-24.9 BMI)
  - Overweight (25.0-29.9 BMI)
  - Obese (30.0 and above)
Sample Body Composition Report

CLIENT
(Patient Name)
Age: 50.0

LEAN
Lean mass includes all parts of the body [organs, muscle, and fluids] but excludes body fat. The higher the Tissue %Lean, the more muscular the body.

Total Weight: 124.8 lbs
Lean Weight: 88.85 lbs
Tissue %Lean: 70.4%

FAT
Composition Reference Centile Graph shows your Total Body Fat % that is compared to a reference population. This comparison is very similar to comparing your actual height and weight to the reference data for height and weight. The bold black line is the group average for 50th percentile (average) result for the reference population. The space on the graph represents your result. These are currently no standard definitions of normal or simply based on Tissue %Lean and, for you can see how you compare to the reference population.

BONE
A bone density test helps your physician to diagnose osteoporosis. The test compares your bone mineral density (BMD) to that of a "young adult" at peak bone strength, displayed as your T-score. It also compares your results to people of your same age, called "age related". Applied in your Z-score. This information, along with other factors, helps physicians assess your risk of osteoporotic fractures. The difference between your result and that of a "young adult" is given as a T-score. For example, a Z-score of -1 signifies that your bone mass is 1 standard deviation below the mean.

Preparation: Follow-up: Add text here...

Recommendation / Follow-up: Add text here...
Breakthroughs in DXA technology

Consider these advances in DXA, available from GE Healthcare:

**Lunar iDXA™**
GE Healthcare’s premier, research-grade bone densitometer that provides highest quality, research-grade whole body assessment across a broad range of patient sizes and conditions. State-of-the-art design.

**Prodigy™**
GE Healthcare’s performance grade bone densitometer that provides basic body composition analysis, including bone mineral density (BMD), and lean and fat tissue mass. Available in Full and Compact sizes.
Indications for use:

The Lunar Body Composition Software option (body composition) used on Lunar DEXA bone densitometer measures the regional and whole body bone mineral density (BMD), lean and fat tissue mass and calculates derivative values of bone mineral content (BMC), area, soft tissue mass, regional soft tissue mass, total soft tissue mass, fat free mass, regional/total soft tissue mass ratio, % fat, region % fat, total body % fat, Android % fat, Gynoid % fat, Android/ Gynoid ratio (A/G ratio) and Body Mass Index (BMI). The values can be displayed in user-defined statistical formats and trends with color image mapping, and compared to reference populations at the sole discretion of the health care professional.

These body composition values are useful to health care professionals in their management of diseases/conditions where the disease/condition itself, or its treatment, can affect the relative amounts of patient fat and lean tissue. The Lunar Body Composition Software option does not diagnose disease, or recommend treatment regimens, or quantify treatment effectiveness. Only the health care professional can make these judgments. Some of the diseases/conditions for which body composition values are useful include chronic renal failure, anorexia nervosa, obesity, AIDS/HIV and cystic fibrosis. DEXA body composition is a useful alternative to hydrostatic weighing and skin fold measurements.

References:

1. The International Association for the Study of Obesity

© 2017 General Electric Company – All rights reserved.
GE Healthcare reserves the right to make changes in specifications and features shown herein, or discontinue the product described at any time without notice or obligation. Contact your GE Healthcare representative for the most current information. GE, the GE Monogram, imagination at work, CoreScan, Prodigy and Lunar iDXA are trademarks of General Electric Company. Windows is a registered trademark of Microsoft Corporation. GE Healthcare, a division of General Electric Company. GE Medical Systems, Inc., doing business as GE Healthcare.

April 2017
JB48048XX