



**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**  
**DIRECTORATE: RADIATION CONTROL**



**GUIDELINES**

**BONE DENSITOMETER – SHIELDING, MONITORING AND POSITIONING OF OPERATORS**

*(The following recommendations serve as guidelines only – final requirements can only be made after an inspection by an official of this Directorate.)*

**1. Shielding requirements<sup>1</sup>**

- 1.1 Walls – dry walls should provide sufficient shielding with a workload of less than 7500 examinations per year (<30 examinations / day)
- 1.2 Protective screen (preferably transparent lead-acrylic shielding).  
Only required if the distances below are not kept by the operator or the workload is more than 30 examinations / day.

**2. Operator: Positioning**

- 2.1 Pencil beam densitometers:
  - The operator shall be positioned at least 1 metre from the edge of the scan table.
- 2.2 Fan beam densitometers:
  - The operator shall be positioned at least 2 metres from the edge of the scan table.

**3. Personal Monitoring**

Personnel are required to wear personal dosimeters if the distances above are not kept and a protective screen not used.

*Ref: CRCPD Publication E-06-05 (October 2006) – Technical White Paper: Bone Densitometry*

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