



GUIDE TO NEW BONE DENSITY MEDICARE ITEM CODES

PATIENTS 70 YEARS AND OVER		
Patients over 70 and has never had a BMD scan		Medicare Item 12320
Previous BMD with a T-score of -1.5 or above	Previous BMD with a T-score less than -1.5 and above -2.5 (Osteopenia)	Previous BMD with a T-score of less than -2.5 (Osteoporosis)
Medicare Item 12320 (1 scan every 5 years)	Medicare Item 12322 (1 scan every 2 years)	Medicare Item 12306 (1 scan every 2 years)

PATIENTS OF ALL AGES		
Has the Patient sustained a minimal trauma fracture?		Medicare Item 12306 (1 scan every 2 years)
Has a Low BMD T-score of -2.5 or less OR a Z-score -1.5 or less (Osteoporosis)		Medicare Item 12306 (1 scan every 2 years)
Has the Patient been diagnosed with	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prolonged glucocorticoid therapy (currently on 7.5mg or more daily OR daily inhaled therapy) • Have a condition associated with excess glucocorticoid secretion • Male hypogonadism • Female hypogonadism, lasting more than 6 months before the age 45 • Anorexia with amenorrhea 	Medicare Item 12312 (1 scan every year)
Diseases that can cause low bone density	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Primary hyperparathyroidism • Chronic liver disease • Chronic renal disease • Rheumatoid Arthritis • Conditions associated with excess thyroxine • Proven malabsorptive disorders (Crohn's, Coeliac, Vitamin D deficiency, or malabsorption of fat) 	Medicare Item 12315 (1 scan every 2 years)
Has the Patient had a significant change in their therapy for the treatment of low BMD (change in the class of drugs - rather than for a change in the dosage regimen.)		Medicare Item 12321 (1 scan every year)