

# Inside Story HIGHLIGHTS

From the Pacific Radiology Referrer Newsletter



Pacific Radiology



## DEXA Matters

### FRAX

If using FRAX you will have noticed the recent addition of the New Zealand tool. After experimenting with this and following discussion with colleagues, I think that the risk assessment that it generates is too low and would advise you to continue using the UK tool until further notice.

### Lowest T Score

The lowest T score used for making the diagnosis of osteoporosis or applying for Alendronate may not appear in the summary table of measurements shown in the report.

Inclusion of all numbers would result in an unwieldy table. Should you wish to review the entire study this is available on PACS.

### Ward's triangle and the trochanteric group of trabeculae

These two areas are not used for the diagnosis of osteoporosis or for monitoring. However it is acceptable to use Ward's triangle when applying for Alendronate.

### Femoral neck versus total density at the hip

In the initial scan of the hip the femoral neck is the significant measurement, while in serial scans the total density to the hip is used for the comparison.

### Ultradistal radius

The distal radius is architecturally a good surrogate for the hip. This measurement will appear in reports when it is not possible to scan the hip or when the densities at the hip and spine differ by more than one standard deviation.

*It is however technically a difficult site to use for serial scans.*

As always your feedback is greatly appreciated.

~ Mike Nowitz



Mike Nowitz