

[Open Peer Review on Qeios](#)

Dual X-ray Absorptiometry

National Cancer Institute

Source

National Cancer Institute. *Dual X-ray Absorptiometry*. NCI Thesaurus. Code C48789.

A technique for scanning bone and measuring bone mineral density (BMD). A DXA scanner produces 2 X-ray beams, each with different energy levels. One beam is high energy while the other is low energy. The amount of x-rays that pass through the bone is measured for each beam. This will vary depending on the thickness of the bone. Based on the difference between the 2 beams, the bone density can be measured.