What is a chest X-ray?

The most common radiology exam.
1. A chest X-ray can help us evaluate the lungs, heart, and chest wall.
2. It can also help us understand problems such as coughing, chest injuries, or chest pain.

How do we do a chest X-ray?

One of our team members will meet with you. We will ask about your child’s history, tell you about the chest X-ray, and answer questions.

No special preparation for a chest X-ray.

- You may need to change into a loose fitting hospital gown. This depends on the type of material or clothing design you are wearing.
- You will need to remove all necklaces or other jewelry in the chest area.
- You will sit or stand in front of the X-ray camera.
- The technologist will ask you to take a big breath and hold it for a few seconds before taking the X-ray picture.
- It is important to be very still.
- We will take 2 X-rays of the chest.

Small children may need help

If a child is not old enough to stand, we may ask parents to help. Sometimes young children need help holding still.

Infants: Lie down on the X-ray table.

Toddlers: Sit at the end of the table or in a special chair.

How does a chest X-ray feel?

Taking a chest X-ray is like taking a picture.
- The X-ray table may feel cool.
- Your child does not feel anything but may hear the X-ray camera make a funny noise.

Expectant mothers may not be in the exam room during the procedure.

Where do I have my chest X-ray?

Radiology locations for chest X-rays:
1. Dodson Specialty Clinic Building
2. Cook Children’s Main Radiology Department

After the chest X-ray

A Radiologist will read the exam and send the results to your child’s doctor. You may contact your child’s doctor for the results.

These instructions are only general guidelines. Your doctor may give you special instructions. If you have questions or concerns, please call your doctor.