

Mass General West Imaging Waltham - Pediatric Imaging

Our Pediatric Imaging Service at Mass General West Imaging Waltham offers referring physicians and families streamlined access to cutting edge technology, on-site interpretations by pediatric specialists and expedited communication of results. We are committed to providing our pediatric patients the lowest possible radiation dose without compromising clinical care.

SPECIALTY READS

On-site, sub-specialized pediatric radiologists interpret scans prior to the patient leaving our facility, highlighting the need for any additional scans immediately, and avoiding the inconvenience of return visits. Results are promptly communicated to the referring physician. Where possible, imaging is integrated into existing physician appointments. Consultation/interpretation of outside studies is also available.

CUSTOMIZED PROTOCOLS

Disease-specific protocols factor in age and body weight to yield the lowest possible radiation dose—especially beneficial in frequently scanned patients. Wherever possible we choose imaging methods that do not use ionizing radiation, including ultrasound and MRI. Please see the reverse side for further information about our radiation reduction efforts.

NEW ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY

Our new high-definition CT scanner offers improved image quality in less scan time. Our pulse fluoroscopy system is optimized to take pictures just a few times per second, rather than continuously. These advancements translate to minimized radiation exposure without reduced diagnostic quality.

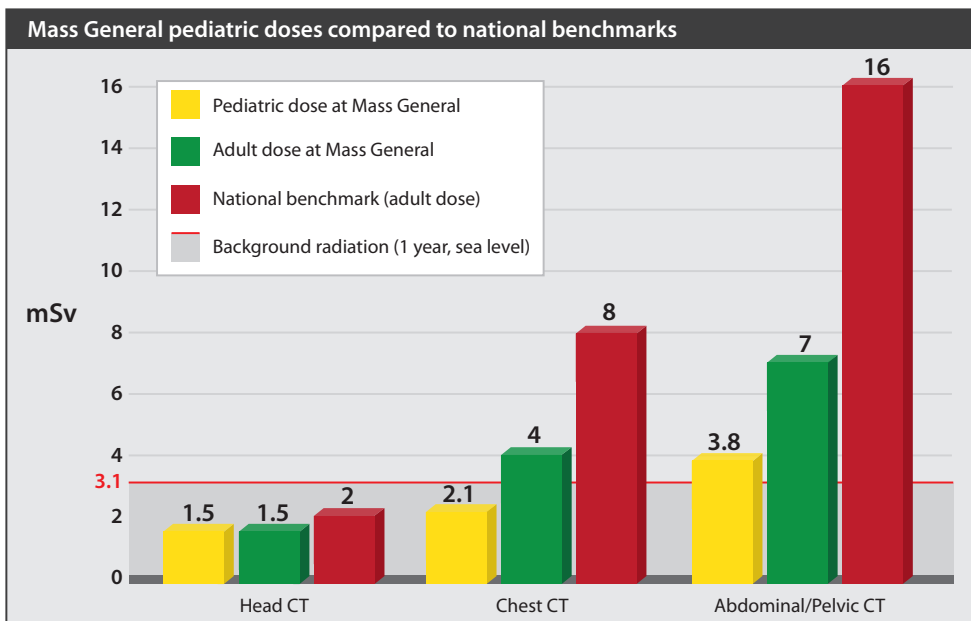


An 11-year-old patient referred to Mass General Imaging by the pediatric GI group with a clinical presentation suspicious for inflammatory bowel disease (IBD). Figures (A) and (B): Upon initial presentation, the child had a low-dose CT scan using a special technique to detect IBD. Figure (C): An MRI was performed for a followup exam, providing no radiation.

RADIATION DOSE REDUCTION

Mass General Imaging is a world leader in the effort to minimize radiation dose, especially among pediatric patients. Here is how typical pediatric doses at Mass General compare to adult doses and national averages.

Pediatric Doses at Mass General		
	Average dose (current)	Dose reduction since 2006
Chest CT	2.1 mSv	↓ 78%
Abdominal/Pelvic CT	3.8 mSv	↓ 53%



WAYS WE MINIMIZE RADIATION DOSE

We evaluate every patient's age, gender, size, and clinical indications to determine and customize the lowest radiation dose necessary for each study.

We have implemented multiple safety checks and technology improvements to ensure every patient receives the correct imaging study at the correct time with the lowest achievable dose.

We created a world-leading radiation dose reduction research center made up of departmental innovators who are devoted to continuously reducing radiation exposure for all patients.

REFERRING TO MASS GENERAL WEST IMAGING WALTHAM

Mass General West Imaging Waltham provides a comprehensive range of pediatric imaging services including CT, MRI, extremity MRI, bone densitometry, ultrasound, nuclear medicine and X-Ray. Exams may be scheduled online via our ROE program <https://www.mghroe.org> or by calling our site directly.



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CONTACT INFORMATION

781-487-6020
[Massgeneralimaging.org](https://www.massgeneralimaging.org)