

What Is Thermography and What Can It Do For You?

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Thermography, also known as digital infrared thermal imaging (DITI), is a totally non-invasive clinical imaging procedure that detects thermal differences within the body, which may indicate the presence of disease or physical injury. It can be used in conjunction with other diagnostic tools, for diagnosis and prognosis, as well as monitoring therapy progress.

DITI is used for conditions and injuries, including: back injuries, arthritis, headache, nerve damage, unexplained pain, fibromyalgia, RSD (CRPS), dental problems and TMJ, artery inflammation, heart disease, vascular disease, breast disease, carpal tunnel syndrome, disc disease, inflammatory pain, skin cancer, referred pain syndrome, sprains and strains, stroke screening, whiplash, digestive disorders and many more diseases and dysfunctions in the body.

Images, known as thermograms, can be taken of the whole body or just specific areas, such as a breast scan or a half body scan that scans for disease in all the major organs of the body. These scans can be used

as part of an annual wellness screening or for investigation of a specific clinical problem. The digitized images are stored on a computer and are sent electronically to a themologist (certified doctor) for interpretation and reporting. Your report is color printed and a copy can also be sent to your healthcare professional.

Unlike most diagnostic tests, thermography is non-invasive, uses no radiation, is painless, and there is no contact with the body. DITI is FDA approved to detect thermal differences within the body and is very affordable.

This quick and easy test starts with your medical history being taken before you partially disrobe for the scanning to be performed. Standard region of interest exams take approximately fifteen minutes; a half body, thirty minutes; and a full body, forty-five minutes. Your printed report is normally completed within a few days.

Thermography results are intended for use by healthcare providers to assist in evaluation, diagnosis and treatment. They are not intended for use by individuals for self-evaluation or self-diagnosis. Reports do

not provide independent diagnosis of illness, disease or other conditions, therefore it is very important that you discuss your results with your healthcare provider.

People have thermograms for a wide variety of reasons. A woman with a family history of early breast cancer may not want to wait until her insurance covers other forms of breast screening. Those with a family history of heart disease or stroke may want to detect potential problems as soon as possible. Someone who experiences back pain may want to pinpoint the source of that pain to help their healthcare practitioner treat them more effectively. DITI is also a great tool for imaging whiplash or sports injuries. There are many other good reasons, but early detection is the key to prevention and achieving better treatment options.

DITI fills a gap in clinical diagnosis in that x-ray, c.t. ultrasound and M.R.I. are all tests of anatomy that measure the structures of your body, while thermography shows physiological changes and metabolic processes. It provides another tool to help you and your healthcare professional safely get you back to better health.