

Mobile X-Ray Considerations and Requirements for Home Bound Patients

- We need the order information sent to us prior to the exam.
- Orders must specify that the exam is to be done “mobile”.
- In addition to the reason for the exam (symptoms), orders must include the reason why the exam is to be done by a mobile x-ray company (Justification for Mobile Services).
- Technologist and patient safety is of great concern. We will no longer be sending a technologist out by themselves. The exam has to be arranged for a time when two technologists are available. An alternative would be for a staff member of a health care agency to be present and willing to assist the technologist with the exam and moving the equipment in and out of the home, if necessary. Family members are no longer acceptable assistants.
- There must be an area we can safely park our vehicles that is close to the home.
- If ordering a mobile x-ray, the entrance to the home must “wheelchair” accessible. A ramp or ground level entry is preferred. A few (2-3) steps are manageable utilizing the technologist’s ramps. If there is a porch or walk way, they need to be cleared and wide enough to accommodate an x-ray machine and two technologists. We cannot maneuver our machines through snow, grass, or mud. All the walking surfaces have to be free of snow and ice in inclement weather. If using our ramps, we need at least 8-10 feet of clearance to extend our ramps to get into the home. Porch, steps, or existing ramps must be safe enough to hold a heavy machine and a few people.
- Information regarding the patient’s home needs to be gathered. The patient must be accessible to two technologists and a portable x-ray or ultrasound machine. Furniture or excessive clutter obstructing our path, narrow or limited space to operate the machine, aggressive animals, heavy smoking and any other environmental hazard will be grounds for cancelling the exam once we enter the residence.
- A working electrical outlet must be near where the exam will be performed.
- If an x-ray exam requiring the patient to be laying down is ordered, the patient must have a bed or couch available that is off of the floor at least 5" and free of objects underneath it.
- If the patient is unable to answer the door, we will need someone available to let us in.
- Note the approximate weight of the patient. Our dispatchers will be asking for this when the order is call.
- On new patients, we will need a onetime Beneficiary form signed at the time of the exam if Medicare is being billed for the exam. If self-pay, arrangements must be made prior to us going out to do the exam.
- In order to arrange a good time for the exam, we require current contact information for the patient. If they cannot answer or talk on the phone, contact information for someone that can coordinate the time and date of the exam.
- The patient needs to be notified by ordering provider that a mobile x-ray or ultrasound exam has been ordered and a representative from our company will be calling to arrange a time for the exam.



- We will attempt multiple times over the course of two days to arrange a time to perform the imaging exam. If we are unsuccessful in reaching the patient by phone or in finding a time that suits the patient, we will cancel the exam and contact the ordering physician for assistance.