

DITI Scanning

Patient Information

DITI (Digital Infrared Thermal Imaging) is non invasive, painless, and non contact in nature. Scanning involves zero risk. Rather than exposing you to radiation, DITI records body thermal patterns given off at the level of the skin. Abnormal DITI findings may raise suspicion that "something is not right" and/or can be used by your healthcare practitioner to help diagnose and monitor pain, inflammation, or tissue pathology (a disease state) in any area of the body. DITI provides information with no risk.

Purpose of the test:

- To help determine the cause of pain.
- For the early detection of disease and pathology.
- To evaluate sensory nerve irritation or significant soft-tissue injury.
- To better define a previously diagnosed injury or condition.
- To identify a potentially abnormal area for further diagnostic testing.
- To follow progress of healing and rehabilitation.
- To provide objective evidence that an abnormality is indeed present.

Patient preparation: Tight clothing, skin stimulation, and sunburn produce thermal "marks" and false (+) DITI findings. Lotions can block heat emanation, and smoking causes generalized vasoconstriction, leading to a false (-) exam, so:

Do not undergo physical therapy, massage, EMG testing, or any other diagnostic/therapeutic modality that involves skin contact/manipulation on the day of your thermography study. Do not apply lotions, deodorants, liniments or makeup. If undergoing a Thermogram of the face it is best not to wear contact lenses. Ideally, men should avoid shaving within four hours of the study.

Activity – Avoid strong sunlight and do not smoke for 2 hours prior to the test.

Diet and Medications - No changes are necessary.

Disrobing – Lose fitting clothes works best. 10-15 minutes prior to scanning we will ask you to remove all jewelry and clothing (covering the areas to be imaged), and to put on a light, loose fitting gown (we provide this) until just before an image is recorded. Panties and men's briefs (not boxers) will be left on.

Description of the test:

Patient in office time: 30 to 60 minutes.

Thermal images may be taken of the whole body, or of specific areas of concern.

A lumbar assessment would typically include, low back, pelvis, and legs.

A cervical assessment would include, head and neck, upper trunk, and arms.

A full body exam (excluding breasts) involves 15 views.

A breast exam involves five views.

Breast images will be carried out by a female thermographer.

You are welcome to have a partner or friend accompany you during the imaging.

If you have any problem keeping your appointment, please let us know, as earliest as possible at 419-531-4235. Staff time will be blocked out for you. If you cancel less than one work day before your exam or miss your scan time a \$50 surcharge will be added to your exam fee.

Patient Information Sheet.

Name D.O.B.

Address

Phone (H) (W)

Occupation

Previous Illnesses.

Previous Surgery.

Current Health Problems.

Medication.

Other Treatment.

Current Doctor.

Do you want a copy of the thermogram report forwarded to your doctor ?
Yes..... No

This information is confidential.
All information is correct to my Knowledge.

Signed Date



Digital Infrared Thermal Imaging (DITI)

Consent Form and Financial Agreement

I wish to undergo thermal imaging (DITI, thermography) at Comprehensive Heart Care. My signature acknowledges that I understand the goals and limitations of DITI, and that I understand and accept the DITI financial policy.

Risks: I understand that there are no known risks associated with DITI thermal imaging.

Study Limitations: I understand that DITI does not image anatomy (organs and internal structures). Rather, temperature asymmetries (temperature differential between an area of interest and the corresponding point on the opposite side of the body) detected by DITI are physiologic signs that an anatomic or functional abnormality is present. DITI will be less sensitive (less likely to pick up) conditions that result in bilateral or generalized dysfunction.

Screening Procedure: DITI is a screening procedure. It does not necessarily obviate or cancel out the potential need for additional diagnostic studies (mammography, MRI, CT, etc.). An abnormal DITI scan may indicate the need for additional anatomic visualization studies.

Need for Additional Images: I understand that a change in thermal pattern over time (especially over the breasts) may provide additional information. It is normal practice that an initial (but not follow-up) breast study be followed up with a three month scan. Initial imaging may also indicate the need for focused studies over a specific body region or imaging of a remote body location (sometimes when looking at one problem we find signs of other problems of greater importance). Your report may thus recommend additional views or a follow up study.

Image Interpretation: All images will be carried out by a ACCT (American College of Clinical Thermology) certified thermographer and read or over read by a ACCT certified MD, DO, or PhD thermologist.

Responsibility to Take Action: If your DITI study was requested by another health care provider, he/she will receive the report and it will be the responsibility of that individual and you to follow up or take action based upon the findings. If you undergo DITI imaging on your own initiative, then you will receive the report and it will be your responsibility to take action based upon the results. Undergoing a DITI exam does not establish a doctor-patient relationship with Comprehensive Heart Care or Dr. Roberts. Stated otherwise, if you are not our patient, then we are not obligated to initiate further diagnostic or therapeutic measures.

Not an Office Visit: DITI imaging is a discreet diagnostic study. It is not an office visit. Your thermographer is not trained to evaluate your medical condition or to relay medical questions. Information obtained from your questionnaire will be used to assist in image interpretation (image interpretation made in context of an individual's symptoms and known problems will be clinically more helpful than images read "blind"). Your results will not be discussed with you over the phone. If you are our patient, then Dr. Roberts will discuss your findings with you at your next office visit, but not over the phone (as is our policy with all diagnostic studies).

Confidentiality and Image Archiving: DITI images and interpretations are considered part of your medical record and will be held in confidence in compliance with government HIPPA regulations. The images themselves will not be stored at Comprehensive Heart Care. They will be stored in digital format within the Meditherm server (which is backed up with off-site storage). In this fashion, the physician reading your current scan will have access to your prior studies (provided they were sent to Meditherm and not to another service provider). Access to the server is password protected and is available only to ACCT certified thermologists and Meditherm administrative personnel.

Transmission of Results: The DITI interpretation and snap shots of the images will be forwarded to the requesting health care provider (with a copy to you if requested by your practitioner) via US mail. If you are undergoing scanning on your own initiative, the report will be sent to you. As documents may occasionally be lost in the mail, please contact us if you do not receive a report within two weeks – this will be your responsibility (otherwise we would have to send the reports via registered mail – this would increase the cost of the study).

Additional Scientific and Clinical Information: Please review our Thermography Website which can be reached through the CHC practice website, www.heartfixer.com. A multitude of information is available at the National Library of Congress website (Pubmed). Please go to www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed and type in digital infrared thermal imaging for general information. For specific information please type in thermography pain, thermography breast disease, thermography carpal tunnel syndrome, thermography neuropathy, etc.

Financial Policy: The fee for DITI is your responsibility and must be paid at the time of image acquisition. We will not bill your insurer for DITI imaging, nor will we request pre-authorization. DITI related costs should be applicable if you have a Health Savings Account. Your insurer may certainly cover alternative imaging procedures, such as mammography, CT scanning, and MRI/MRA. It is your choice to undergo DITI scanning.

I have reviewed the above information regarding the goals, limitations, and financial policies associated with DITI imaging at Comprehensive Heart Care. I will abide by the policies and give my consent to undergo DITI imaging.

Signature

Date