## Accepted Manuscript

Title: Body composition: Where and when

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PII: S0720-048X(15)30140-6

DOI: http://dx.doi.org/doi:10.1016/j.ejrad.2015.10.020

Reference: EURR 7286

To appear in: European Journal of Radiology

Received date: 6-10-2015 Revised date: 19-10-2015 Accepted date: 27-10-2015

Please cite this article as: Mazzoccoli Gianluigi.Body composition: Where and when. *European Journal of Radiology* http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.ejrad.2015.10.020

RADIOLOGY

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Body composition: where and when

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**HIGHLIGHTS** 

Body composition is in a dynamic state influenced by external and internal stimuli

• Different body fat depots associate with specific profiles of cardio-metabolic risk

Seasonal variations of adipose depots impact body composition in health and disease

Abstract

The *in vivo* evaluation of body composition is essential in many clinical investigations, in order to

accurately describe and monitor the nutritional status of a range of medical conditions and

physiological processes, including sick and malnourished patients, pregnant women, breastfeeding

women and the elderly, as well as in patients with cancer, osteoporosis and many other diseases. This

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