

Other X-Ray Examinations

Loopogram

What is a Loopogram?

This is an x-ray examination to check your urinary tract after your bladder has been removed and to make sure your urinary diversion is functioning properly.

A small catheter is inserted into the stoma of your urinary conduit (loop). X-ray contrast (dye) will be injected through the catheter to fill the conduit, the ureters and kidneys.

The test takes approximately 30 minutes and there is no preparation involved.

You are advised to bring a spare stoma bag with you.

Urethrogram

What is a Urethrogram?

An urethrogram is an x-ray examination in the male urethra. It is used to demonstrate laceration (tears), fistula (abnormal connecting path) or stricture (narrowing) which can interrupt urination. A small catheter (tube) is placed in the opening of the urethra at the end of the penis. X-ray dye is injected through this tube and images are taken.

Your privacy will be well-maintained at all times.

Micturating Cystogram

What is a Micturating Cystogram?

Adults

This is an examination to look at the action of the bladder and ureters (the tubes leading from the kidneys to the bladder) when you urinate.

Once you have been catheterised on the ward a member of staff will bring you to the X-ray department.

You will lie on an X-ray table and special X-ray dye will be introduced into your bladder via the catheter. When your bladder feels really full the doctor will take out the catheter and the table will be put in the upright position.

You will be given a special receptacle which you place between your legs and you will be asked to urinate into this. The contraction of your bladder can then be seen on the X-ray screen.

Your privacy will be well maintained at all times.

Paediatric

This is a special X-ray test that shows the bladder, the tubes leading to the bladder (the ureters) and the tube from the bladder to the outside (the urethra).

There is no need to restrict diet or fluids for this test.

If your child is taking antibiotics, please continue to give these as normal.

For the test, the child's clothes need to be removed from the waist down and the area between the legs will be cleaned and draped with sterile towels.

A fine tube (the catheter) is inserted into the tube leading from the bladder to the outside (the urethra).

Some children may find this unpleasant. Although it is not painful, it can

feel uncomfortable and small children and babies can object to their legs being held still whilst the tube is passed, but this is done as gently and quickly as possible.

If you wish to stay with your child during this procedure, you will need to wear a heavy lead-rubber apron to protect you from the X-rays. If you are pregnant you will be discouraged from staying as it is unwise to be exposed to X-rays at this time, so we would advise you to bring someone with you who could stay with your child.

The doctor in the X-ray room (the radiologist) will pass some fluid into the bladder through the catheter until the bladder is full. The fluid enables the Radiologist to watch the bladder filling on the X-ray screen. A series of X-ray pictures is taken as the dye passes out again. This will show any abnormality of the ureters (reflux).

When the fluid has been passed, the catheter is removed and your child can be dressed and taken home.

Please ensure that you have an appointment to discuss the results of this test with your doctor.

Please bring with you any medication that your child has been prescribed.

PLEASE NOTE your child's urine should have been checked after discharge from the ward. If it has not, please contact the Children's Day Ward on (0151) 604 7182.

Sialogram

What is a Sialogram?

A sialogram is an X-ray examination of a salivary gland. It is carried out to look in detail at the larger salivary glands, namely the parotid or submandibular glands. These glands produce saliva and pass it into your mouth through small tubes (ducts).

The radiologist who performs your sialogram will pass a small plastic tube into the salivary duct. X-ray dye is injected through this tube into the salivary gland. X-ray pictures are then taken and the tube is removed. The test takes about 30 minutes.

Sinogram

What is a Sinogram?

A sinogram is an x-ray procedure to visualise any abnormal opening (sinus) in the body. A fine catheter (tube) is inserted into the opening of the sinus. X-ray dye is then injected through this tube and x-rays are taken. The test takes about 30 minutes.