



Fluoroscopy

Fluoroscopy produces “movie-like” images of the body structures. The images are viewed on a monitor that provides detailed imagery.

General Instructions:

- This exam must be scheduled.
- Have your physician's office check with your insurance carrier about coverage requirements.
- Report to outpatient registration with your signed order **at least 15 minutes before** your appointment, unless you are given other instructions.
- If you need to cancel your appointment, please call us 24 hours before the scan.
- The results will be sent to your physician.
- **For additional information, please call us at 814-467-3435.**

How should I prepare for the exam?

- Small Bowel Series, Barium Swallow, Upper Gastrointestinal Series (UGI): Do not eat or drink after midnight. Do not smoke or chew gum after midnight until the procedure is complete.
- Barium Enema: Schedule 72 hours after colon/rectal biopsy.

Day before procedure:

- Noon - Begin clear liquid diet (i.e. broth, soda, coffee/tea without cream, gelatin, juice without pulp)
- 4 p.m. - Take magnesium citrate (purchase at any pharmacy; follow label instructions)
- 7 p.m. - Take 2 Dulcolax tablets with water (purchase at any pharmacy)
- 8 p.m. - Drink 8 ounces of liquid
- 9 p.m. - Continue liquids until midnight
- Midnight - Nothing by mouth until after exam

Day of procedure:

- In AM if stool is still not clear, use fleets enema.

How long with the exam take?

- Small Bowel Series: Approximately 1 hour. Varies by patient, depending on metabolism.
- Barium Swallow, UGI: Approximately 45 minutes.
- Barium Enema: Approximately 1 hour.

Will I feel any pain?

- You may experience minor discomfort, but these exams are not painful. The barium may cause constipation and white-colored stool for a few days after the exam. Drink plenty of fluids following the exam.

How will the exam be performed?

- The technologist will ask you about your medical history.
- You will be asked to change into a patient gown.
- You will be asked to lie on an exam table.
- The technologist will move you into different positions while the radiologist views the images on the monitor. After the radiologist leaves, the technologist will continue taking additional images.
- Small Bowel Series, Barium Swallow, UGI: Before the exam, you will be asked to swallow gas crystals. Then you will be asked to drink barium to coat the digestive tract. The barium is similar to milk of magnesia in consistency and taste.
- Barium Enema: An enema tip will be inserted into your rectum. Barium will flow through the tip into your colon. After the exam, you will be escorted to the restroom to empty the bowel. Additional images are taken after the bowel is emptied.