

Information about your X-Ray



The leaflet tells you about having an X-ray. It explains what is involved and what the possible risks are.

What is an X-ray?

An X-ray is a picture of the internal structures of the body produced by exposure to a controlled source of X-rays. Images are recorded in digital form, shown on a computer screen.

The Imaging Team

The imaging team is made up of:

- Reception staff
- Healthcare support workers
- Nurses
- Radiographers who perform the X-Ray
- Radiologists who report the scan

Do I need to do any special preparation before the X-Ray?

You do not need to do anything.

If I am diabetic, taking tablets or medicine, should I stop them?

No. If you are taking prescription medicine you should continue to take this as normal.

Do I need to do any special preparation before the X-Ray?

You do not need to do anything.

Is there anything I need to tell staff before I have my X-Ray?

Please tell us if you think you may be pregnant.

What will I wear?

Depending on the part of the body to be examined, we may ask you to remove some clothing and put on an examination gown in a changing cubicle before the x-ray. We will let you know when you arrive.

If you can wear loose fitting clothes with no metal fastening like zips, poppers and hooks and eyes. This may save you having to change into a hospital gown.

You may wish to bring a dressing gown with you as we are unable to provide these.

Can I bring someone with me?

You can bring a friend or relative with you but we will not allow them into the examination room. Please note, we may ask them to wait in the main reception area.

If you need to bring your children please make sure there is also an adult with you as we are unable to provide childcare facilities.

What happens during the X-ray?

The Radiographer will first ask you your name, date of birth and address to confirm your identity. They will give you instructions throughout the examination.

Depending on the examination we may ask you to lie on an x-ray table and to move into different positions to get the relevant images for a diagnosis.

Although the Radiographer will go behind a screen, they can see and hear you at all times.

The X-ray should not be uncomfortable or painful.

How long will it take?

This will vary, depending upon the body part being examined and the number of images requested, for a diagnosis. Waiting times can also vary within the Imaging Department due to emergencies and also different X-ray rooms may be used for specific x-ray examinations. Please note that other patients may have an x-ray before you.

What are the risks?

There are risks involved with X-rays, but a plain X-ray uses a small amount of radiation, usually equivalent to that of the background radiation which we all receive from the atmosphere over a period of days to years (depending upon the area being X-rayed). The level of radiation used is very small and the benefits of the x-ray are thought to outweigh any risks.

Common X-ray examinations such as chest, the torso and the limbs, involve amounts of radiation that are equivalent to less than 3 months of natural background radiation.

When will I know the result?

We will send the results to the person who referred you for the test. Your referrer will make arrangements to tell you the result.

Any other questions?

Please ask a member of the team in the Imaging Department

Please

- Do not bring any valuables with you
- Call us if you need advice

Call us as soon as possible if you can't keep this appointment – we can give you another appointment and give yours to someone else.

Contact Centre Telephone Number

0141 347 8379

www.nhsgg.org.uk