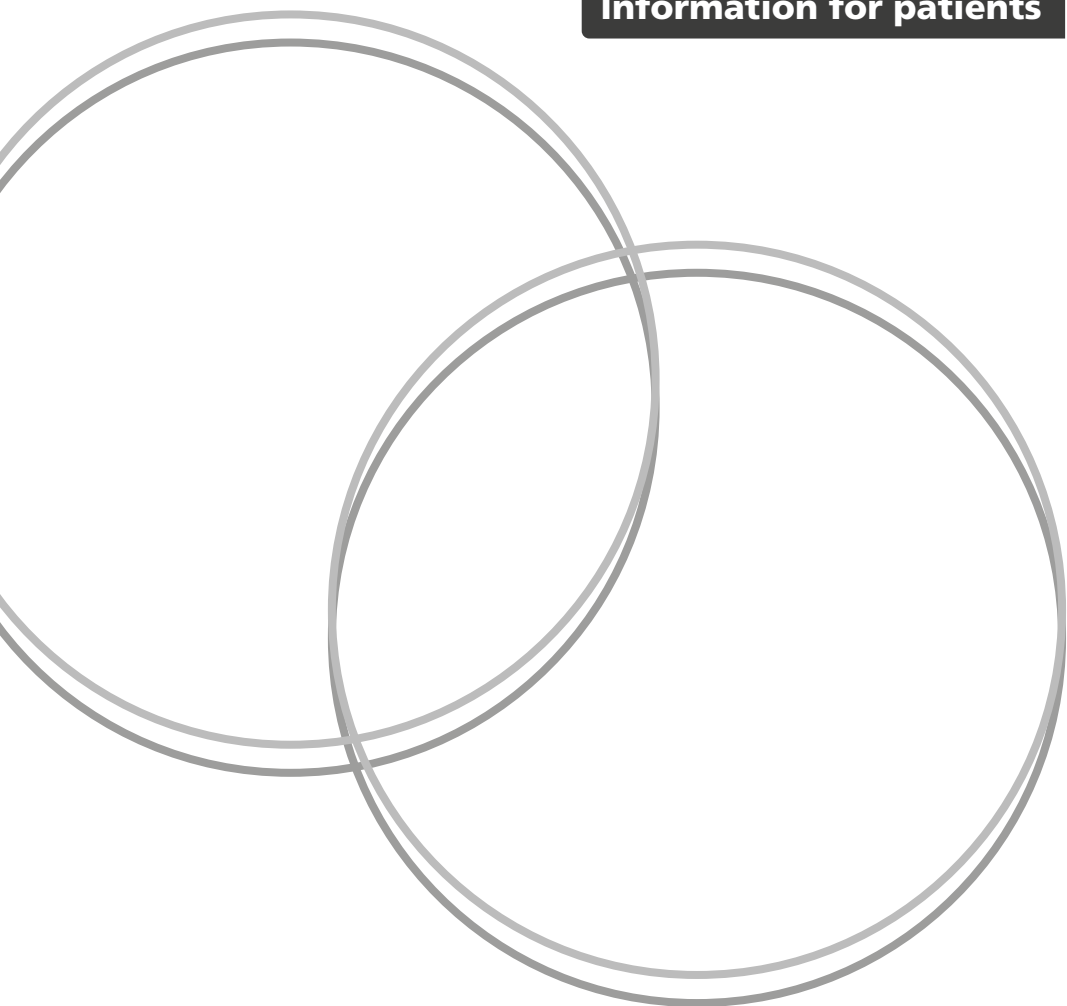




Oxford University Hospitals
NHS Foundation Trust

Tubogram examination

Information for patients



Tubogram examination

The X-ray department has received a request for you to have a Tubogram examination. This leaflet tells you the purpose of the examination, what's involved and what the risks are. We will also send you an appointment letter which will tell you where to go for your appointment.

- If you cannot attend your appointment, please let us know **as soon as possible**. Please telephone us on the number on the front of your appointment letter.
- For people between the ages of 12-55 years it is important to carry out this examination within 10 days of the start of your menstrual cycle (period). This is because the examination should usually be performed when we can be sure that you are not pregnant. If the appointment date does not fall within this time please telephone for another appointment. (If you are using contraception i.e.: pill, injection or the coil which is within its recommended dates or not missed a pill dose, this is sufficient for the pregnancy form).
- If you weigh more than 196kg or 31 stone, please tell us immediately.

If you need hospital transport to reach the hospital, please arrange this with your GP prior to the appointment.

You can contact us on: **01865 228944**

(9.30am to 4.30pm –Monday to Friday)

Contact details are also on the front of your appointment letter.

What is a Tubogram examination?

This is an X-ray examination that checks your line/ tube that is already inserted into your abdomen. A clear sticky liquid (contrast agent) that shows up your bowel, is injected into the line/ tube to check that it is in the correct position, freely draining or flowing, and is not blocked.

Can I bring a relative or friend?

Yes, but for reasons of safety they will not be able to accompany you into the X-ray room except in very special circumstances.

Are there any risks?

- Exposure to radiation: This is a low dose examination and the amount of radiation is kept to a minimum. This is equivalent to the amount of background radiation that you naturally receive over 2-3 months.
- There is a slight risk from an allergy to contrast dye (this is uncommon) that we use to see if your tube is in the correct place. Medicines to help with any reaction are kept on site at all times with doctors available for assessment if needed.

Your doctor has recommended this examination because they feel that the benefits are greater than the risk of not having the examination. Even so, this test cannot be guaranteed to detect all abnormalities in the bowel.

What happens at home before the examination?

No additional preparation or dietary requirement is needed before the examination.

What happens during the examination?

The procedure usually lasts about 15 minutes but you may be at the hospital longer if we need to see emergency patients.

You will be asked to change into a hospital gown to make sure that no metal coins/objects or bra straps are seen on the pictures.

We will ask you to lie down on an X-ray table, some contrast agent will be inserted through the tube/ line that is being assessed. X-ray pictures will be taken as we are injecting the dye to check that it is the right position and that the dye is flowing clearly. You may have to roll into different positions so that the practitioner can ensure the tube is correctly sited.

Side effects and what happens after the examination?

- Uncommonly, you may have a delayed allergic reaction to the contrast dye which may give you an itchy rash. If this occurs, please ring the radiology department, your GP or the emergency department (if out of hours) so that we can give you further instructions.

When and how will I know the result of the examination?

The pictures will be examined by a radiologist, who will then send a report of the results to the person who referred you. If there is a blockage in the tube or it is incorrectly sited, then this report will be quickly sent to referrer who will be in contact with the result and further instructions:

- If you are on home leave and have had this test arranged by the ward doctor, they will either have asked you:
- to attend the ward after the procedure to assess the results and give you further instructions.
- To go home and one of the medical team who referred you for this test will be in contact with you via the telephone to discuss the results and further management.

- If a doctor/consultant from the outpatient department referred you then the result will be sent out in time for your next outpatient appointment. If you do not yet have another outpatient appointment and do not hear anything within three weeks, you should telephone the consultant's secretary for advice.

Questions or concerns

If you have any questions, you can telephone us on the number on the front of your appointment letter.

Further information

Further information can be found on the following websites:

Oxford University Hospitals

www.ouh.nhs.uk/services/departments/radiology

NHS Website

www.nhs.uk

Royal College of Radiologists

www.rcr.ac.uk

If you are unable to keep your appointment, please help us by contacting the Radiology appointments team as soon as possible. Your appointment slot can then be given to someone else, and you will be offered an alternative date and time.

Further information

If you would like an interpreter, please speak to the department where you are being seen.

Please also tell them if you would like this information in another format, such as:

- Easy Read
- large print
- braille
- audio
- electronic
- another language.

We have tried to make the information in this leaflet meet your needs. If it does not meet your individual needs or situation, please speak to your healthcare team. They are happy to help.

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Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
www.ouh.nhs.uk/information



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