

# Having an ileostomy or colostomy enema or fistulogram

Information for patients



## **What is an ileostomy / colostomy enema / fistulogram?**

It is an x-ray examination to demonstrate a part of your bowel / abdomen through your stoma.

## **What does it involve?**

You will be asked to lie on your back and your stoma bag will be removed. A small flexible tube is inserted through the stoma. X-ray dye is injected through the tube into the bowel whilst x-rays are taken.

When the tube is removed a new stoma bag is put on and the x-ray dye will drain into the bag.

## **Who performs the examination?**

it is performed by a team of healthcare professionals which may include a radiographer, an advanced practitioner, an assistant and a radiologist.

## **How do I prepare for the examination?**

You may continue to eat, drink and take your usual medication.

You will need to bring a spare stoma bag and any other dressings/equipment that you use.

## In the Radiology Department

You will be given a gown to change into. Please do not bring large sums of money or items of value with you.

## How long will I be in the department?

Allow up to an hour for your visit. Although we try to keep to your appointment time, there may be a delay due to emergency patients.

We are unable to provide any childcare so please make alternative arrangements.

## Are there any risks?

### Radiation

This examination involves x-rays. Patients who are, or might be pregnant **must** inform a member of staff.

The amount of radiation used is more than an ordinary x-ray of the chest or body. It is equal to the natural radiation we receive from the atmosphere over a period of approximately two years.

The risk from this radiation dose is very low.

### Allergic reaction

Some patients may be allergic to the x-ray dye or medicines. This is very rare. If you have any allergies, please tell a member of staff.

Despite these small risks your doctor believes it is beneficial for you to have this examination.

## Do you ever fail to complete the examination?

This examination is usually successful. If, for any reason, we are unable to perform the examination we will inform your doctor who will discuss the alternatives with you.

## Following the examination

You will be able to eat, drink and continue normal activities.

## How will I get my results?

You will not be given your results on the day. They will be sent to your hospital consultant and they will contact you.



## What did you think of your care?

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