



Imaging test to be performed:

Arthrogram (Joint X-ray)

Patient's name: _____

Test date: _____

Test time: _____

See other side for test location and registration instructions

What You Need To Know

How to prepare for your test:

Tell your health professional before your arthrogram if you:

- Are or might be pregnant.
- Are allergic to iodine. The contrast dye used for arthrography may contain iodine.
- Are allergic to any medications, including anesthetics.
- Have ever had a serious allergic reaction (anaphylaxis) from any substance, such as a bee sting or eating shellfish.
- Have asthma.
- Have bleeding problems or are taking blood-thinning medication.
- Have active rheumatoid arthritis. The injected contrast dye may make your arthritis worse.
- Have a known infection in or around your joint. The injected contrast dye may make your infection worse.

There is no need to limit food or drink before this test.

How long will the test take?

About 30 – 60 minutes.

What is the purpose of the test?

To view the soft-tissue structures of joints — such as tendons, ligaments, muscles, and cartilage — that are not seen on a plain x-ray. This procedure can be done on various joints, including hip, knee, ankle, shoulder, elbow, wrist, or jaw.

How is the test performed?

You will sit or lie down with your joint under an x-ray viewer (fluoroscope) connected to a video monitor that can show x-ray images.

The skin over your joint will be cleaned with an antiseptic solution and draped with sterile towels. A local anesthetic will be injected into the site where a contrast dye will be injected.

A needle will be inserted into your joint area. Joint fluid may be removed so that more contrast dye can be injected into your joint. A sample of your joint fluid may be sent to a lab for analysis. The fluoroscope will ensure that the needle is placed correctly within your joint. The contrast dye will then be injected through the needle into your joint.

You may be asked to walk a few steps or move your joint around to help evenly distribute the contrast dye inside your joint. Images from the fluoroscope will be reviewed to ensure that the dye has filled your entire joint. Try to remain as still as possible while the x-rays are being taken except when moving your joint through its entire range of motion as instructed. The x-rays will be taken quickly, before other tissues surrounding your joint absorb the dye.

Required before test:

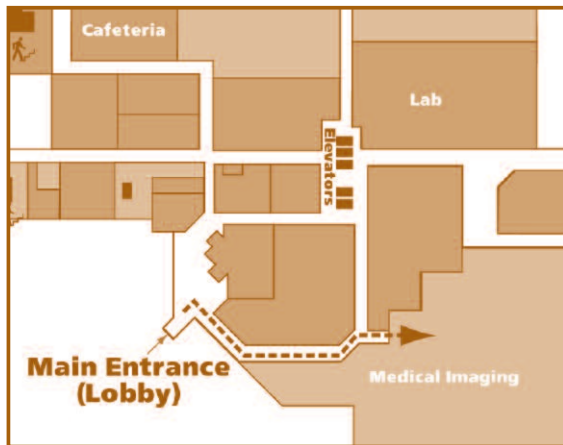
Please provide a signed physician order to perform the exam.

Results will be sent to your ordering physician after a radiologist's review.

Your test will be conducted at:

EIRMC (main campus)

Medical Imaging Department
3100 Channing Way
Idaho Falls
208-227-2600



What is an x-ray?

Your doctor has ordered for you a body imaging test known as an x-ray. X-rays are a form of electromagnetic radiation, just like visible light. In a healthcare setting, x-rays are emitted by a machine as individual "particles" (photons) that pass through the body and then get detected by a sensitive film. Structures that are dense, such as bone, will block most of the photons and will appear white on developed film. Structures containing air will be black on film, and muscle, fat, and fluid will appear as shades of gray. Metal and contrast media block almost all the photons and will appear bright white. X-rays are also known as radiographs.

How to register:

Please arrive 10 - 15 minutes (unless otherwise instructed) before your test, which includes time for you to register. See the following schedule for guidance on where to register. You will need to show a copy of your insurance card and driver's license each time you register.

Where to register:

Day/Time	EIRMC Location
<i>Mon.- Fri.</i>	
12 - 6:30 a.m.	Emergency Dept. (as outpatient)
6:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.	Medical Imaging Dept.
4:30 - 7 p.m.	Main Admissions (front of hospital)
7 p.m. - midnight	Emergency Dept. (as outpatient)
<i>Saturday</i>	
12 - 7:30 a.m.	Emergency Dept. (as outpatient)
7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.	Main Admissions (front of hospital)
4 p.m. - midnight	Emergency Dept. (as outpatient)
<i>Sunday</i>	
All day	Emergency Dept. (as outpatient)