

# X-ray

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Outpatient Testing



Imaging test to be performed:

## Lumbar Puncture

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:

If you're a female of childbearing age, before undergoing this test you must undergo complete pregnancy screening.

Please arrange for someone to give you a ride home.

#### How long will the test take?

About 30 minutes.

You will be required to lie flat for 60 minutes after the procedure.

#### What is the purpose of the test?

The procedure, also known as a spinal tap, drains a small sample of cerebral spinal fluid from the lower spine. It can be used for several purposes, including to determine the spinal fluid pressure, to obtain a specimen for testing, to relieve pressure around the brain by removing fluid, or to inject medications around the spinal cord.

#### How is the test performed?

You will lie on your stomach. The radiologist will cleanse the skin over your spinal column with iodine. The radiologist will use fluoroscopic guidance to select the best site to place a small needle. You will be given an injection of local anesthetic at the puncture site. The radiologist will insert a needle into your spinal fluid space. Attached to the needle will be a long, thin tube called a manometer to measure the fluid's pressure. Spinal fluid will be collected into specimen tubes for laboratory testing.

#### Required before test:

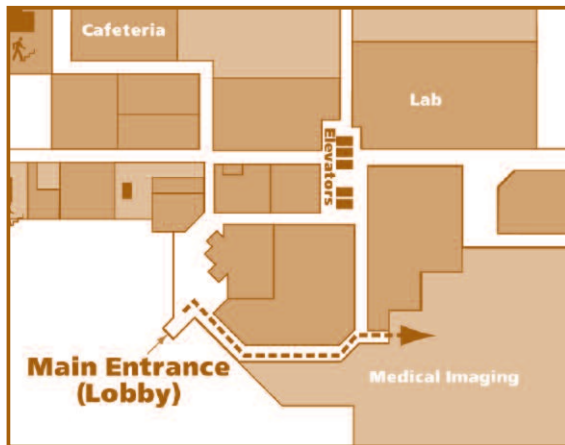
Please provide a signed physician order to perform the exam.

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)