

# Gastrografin enema

## What is a Gastrografin enema?

A Gastrografin enema is a radiographic examination of the large bowel. Gastrografin enemas are usually performed to investigate the large bowel following surgery.

## What preparation is required?

No preparation is required if you have had surgery and have a colostomy bag attached. Please bring a replacement colostomy bag to be fitted at the end of the procedure.

## What is involved?

Upon arrival you will be required to remove all clothing and change into a hospital gown.

Lying on your side, the radiologist will insert a tube into the rectum. Tape might be applied to the end of the tube to hold the tube in place.

A bag pre-filled with a Gastrografin solution is attached to the enema tube and Gastrografin is slowly allowed to run into the rectum and fill the large bowel.

The enema tube will remain in the rectum until the examination is completed. The Gastrografin mixture will then be drained out from the rectum as much as possible. The tube is then removed and you will be taken to a private bathroom where you can use toilet facilities.

## Are there any side effects?

Some patients can experience stomach cramps or discomfort. Some rectal discharge may occur following the procedure. Please alert a staff member if you experience any symptoms of nausea. This is not an allergic reaction.

## How long will this take?

The procedure will take approximately 30 minutes to complete.

## How do I get my results?

Digital images are immediately available to your doctor and your records will be kept permanently. This occurs through a system called PACS. **If a priority report is requested it will be issued within two hours and faxed or emailed to your doctor, however this can sometimes take up to 24 hours.**

If your referring doctor wants to see you on the day of your examination, please advise the reception staff when you arrive for your appointment, so the appropriate information can be made available for you to take to your doctor.

## How much will this cost?

Please ask reception staff of the cost involved at the time of booking your appointment.

## Important

**It is important to let us know when you make your booking if you are or think you may be pregnant or are breastfeeding.**

It is important to bring with you your referral, previous x-rays and any other tests (only if previous ones were **not** done at Cabrini or I-MED).

## Questions

For more information or to make an appointment, please contact Cabrini Medical Imaging using the relevant number below.