

Gastrografin follow-through

What is a Gastrografin follow-through?

A Gastrografin follow-through is a radiographic examination of the stomach, duodenum and small bowel. This procedure studies the function and the form of the stomach and small bowel. Gastrografin is a clear fluid, sometimes mixed with water and designed to outline the small bowel. It has an aniseed flavor.

What preparation is required?

You will need to fast for eight hours prior to the procedure.

Continue taking any medication and if you need a sip of water to assist, you may do so.

You will be required to remove all clothing, except underpants and remove any earrings or jewellery around your neck. You will be asked to change into a hospital gown. Alternatively you may wear comfortable clothing such as tracksuit pants and a plain T-shirt (any clothing without metal zips, studs or metallic decoration).

What is involved?

You will be required to drink 2 - 3 cups of Gastrografin mixture from a cup. X-ray images of the abdomen are taken at intervals (usually 30 - 60 minute intervals) to follow the Gastrografin through the small bowel. The examination is complete when the Gastrografin reaches the large bowel or when it can go no further.

Are there any side effects?

Some people can experience an upset stomach or diarrhoea following the procedure when required to drink Gastrografin. Please alert a staff member if you experience any symptoms of nausea. This is not an allergic reaction.

How long will this take?

This procedure can take between 4 - 6 hours to complete. Please feel free to bring a book, magazine, laptop or iPad, as you will be required to stay within the department for the duration of the examination. Wifi access can be arranged for your use.

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.