

Knee arthrogram

What is a knee arthrogram?

A knee arthrogram is a radiographic examination of the soft tissue structures within the knee joint. Iodinated contrast is injected into the joint space to visualise the area on x-ray. A combination of air and/or sterile water is injected into the capsule to expand it. This procedure would be performed if a patient were unable to have an MRI.

What preparation is required?

You will be required to remove clothing from the lower body. Underpants can remain on. You will be asked to change into a hospital gown.

What is involved?

You will lie flat on the x-ray table. The radiologist will give you an injection of local anaesthetic to numb the skin. Another needle will be used, and positioned within the capsule of the knee joint.

Are there any side effects?

Some patients can experience a dull pain and heaviness within the knee during the procedure. If the injection site should become more tender or swollen following the procedure, please notify your referring doctor and also contact the medical imaging department. 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 will take approximately 15 - 20 minutes to complete. **You will need to make arrangements to have someone drive you home.** It is recommended that you do not return to work until the following day.

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.