



Contrast Examination of the Bowel

Radiology Department

Great Western Hospital

If you need to cancel or you have queries or concerns please contact the department on

01793 60 50 59

Opening Hours

Monday - Friday 9.00am – 4.30pm



Contrast Examination of the Bowel

What is this examination?

This is an examination of the large bowel. Contrast is introduced into the bowel so that it can be seen more clearly.

The procedure takes about 15 minutes, but you should allow an hour all together for changing and visits to the toilet.

Are there any risks involved?

The likelihood of complications is extremely rare.

Any concerns you may have can be discussed before we begin the procedure. Alternatively, ring the number given below.

During your procedure you will receive a dose of ionising radiation to help us form images of your body and this will provide your doctor with detailed information. The radiation dose is always kept as low as possible. The actual dose you receive will vary depending on the type of procedure you are having, but your doctor has considered this and feels that this is the best procedure for you to have to help diagnose or treat your condition.

We are all at risk of developing cancer in our lifetime and the added risk from undergoing your procedure is small and is outweighed because of the benefits it provides and every procedure that you have in Radiology has been assessed to ensure that the benefit outweighs the risk. For more information see the displays within the department or ask a member of staff.



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Do I have to have this examination?

Your doctor has requested this examination as it is the simplest way of gaining the information needed.

You must ring for further advice if any of the following applies to you:

- **You think you may be pregnant**
- **You are breast feeding.**

The number to ring is:

01793 60 50 59

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Before the examination:

- There is no preparation for this
- You may eat and drink normally

During the examination:

- You will be asked to change into a gown. There will be someone to help you with this if necessary.
- The contrast will be introduced into your bowel, usually through the back passage.
- You will be asked to move into various positions so that your bowel wall is well coated. Images are then taken.



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- When we have finished, you will be able to go to the toilet, which is next to the x-ray room. Take your time in there until you feel comfortable enough to get dressed.

After the examination:

- You may eat and drink normally
- You will receive notice of a follow up clinic appointment to discuss the results.

From 1st January 2019 smoking will not be permitted on any NHS site in England. Smoking will not be permitted within any of our buildings or anywhere outside on our sites. Smoking facilities will not be provided. Please be considerate of others when vaping in hospital grounds.

This information sheet is available to order in other languages and formats. If you would like a copy, please contact us on 01793 604031 or email gwh.pals@nhs.net

Document Control

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