



What is Diagnostic X-Ray?

Diagnostic X-ray uses very low-dose radiation to make images, or pictures, of structures inside the body. X-rays are fast, easy and painless. The average x-ray study takes 15-20 minutes.

What is it good for?

X-ray images visualize bones and cavities within them. They are particularly useful in the diagnosis of bone fractures, and examining the chest and abdomen.

How does it Work?

X-ray beams (radiation) pass through the body and then strike a film plate, making a image (picture). No radiation remains in the body once the exam has been completed. You will be instructed to hold still and possibly to hold your breath to avoid blurring of the image.

Is there any special preparation?

Generally no, although certain X-ray procedures do require special preparation, such as a GI series or IVP (Intravenous Pyelogram). If your physician has ordered such a test, you will be given specific instructions on how to prepare.

What is Fluoroscopy?

Fluoroscopy, an enhanced version of basic x-ray, produces real-time images on a TV-like monitor, and is useful for detecting problems in the digestive tract, kidneys and gallbladder. In some cases contrast agents are used to highlight specific areas. A fluoroscopy exam usually lasts 30-40 minutes. Sometimes a contrast agent is needed to amplify the area of interest. You will be given instructions on how to prepare beforehand.