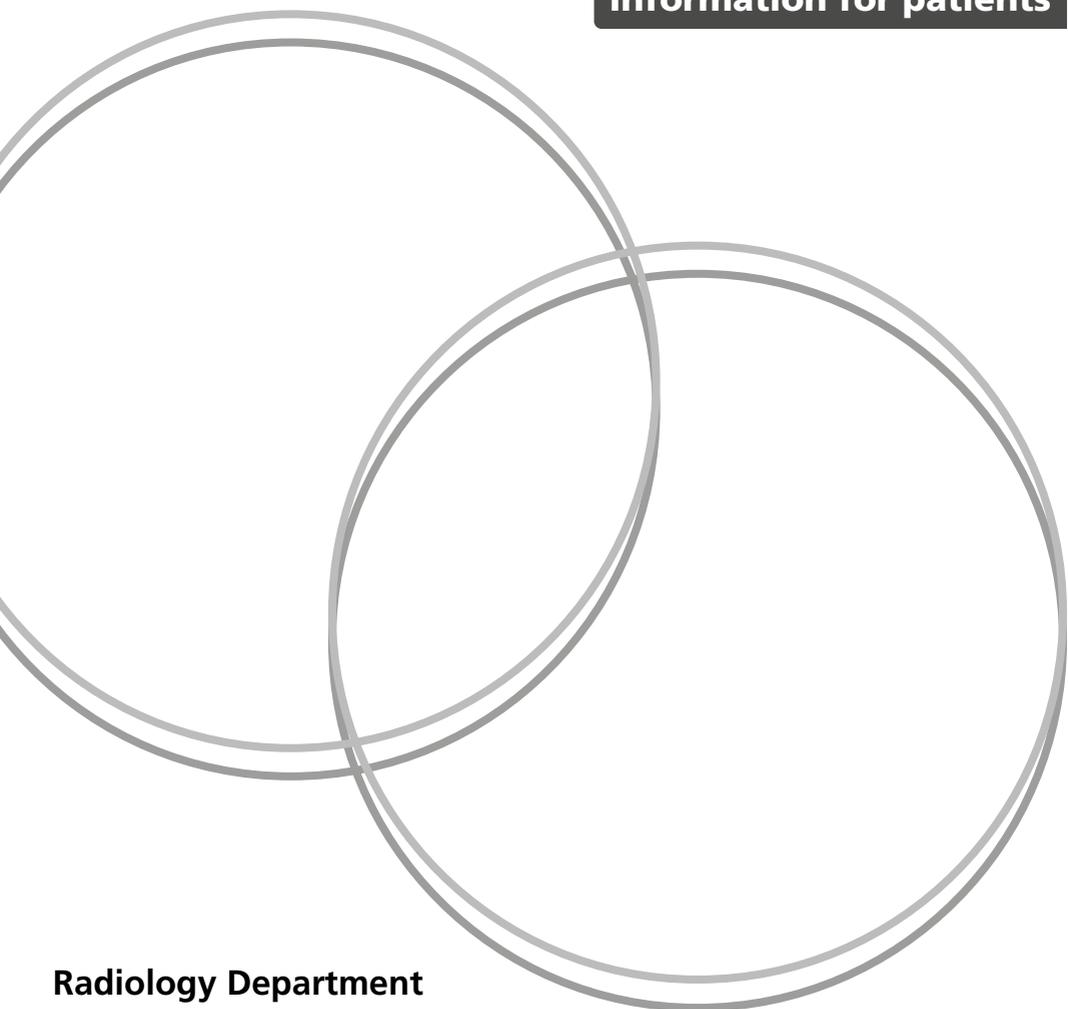




Oxford University Hospitals  
NHS Foundation Trust

# Cystogram examination

Information for patients



Radiology Department

## Cystogram examination

The X-ray department has received a request for you to have a Cystogram examination. This leaflet tells you the purpose of the examination, what's involved and what the risks are. We will also send you an appointment letter which will tell you where to go for your appointment.

- If you cannot attend your appointment, please let us know **as soon as possible**. Please telephone us on the number on the front of your appointment letter.
- For people between the ages of 12-55 years it is important to carry out this examination within 10 days of the start of your menstrual cycle (period). This is because the examination should usually be performed when we can be sure that you are not pregnant. If the appointment date does not fall within this time please telephone for another appointment. (If you are using contraception i.e.: pill, injection or the coil which is within its recommended dates or not missed a pill dose, this is sufficient for the pregnancy form).
- If you weigh more than 196kg or 31 stone, please tell us immediately.

**If you need hospital transport to reach the hospital, please arrange this with your GP prior to the appointment.**

**You can contact us on:**

**01865 228 944**

(9.30a.m. to 4.30p.m., Monday to Friday)

Contact details are also on the front of your appointment letter.

## **What is a Cystogram examination?**

This is an X-ray examination that is often performed after surgery when damage has occurred to your bladder. The examination checks that your bladder has healed by injecting a special x-ray contrast dye, through your already placed catheter into your bladder, to check that it has healed before they remove your catheter.

## **Are there any risks?**

- Exposure to radiation: This is a low dose examination, and the amount of radiation is kept to a minimum. This is equivalent to the amount of background radiation that you naturally receive over 3-4 months.
- There is a slight risk from an allergy to contrast dye (this is uncommon). Medicines to help with any reaction are always kept on site with doctors available for assessment if needed.

Your doctor has recommended this examination because they feel that the benefits are greater than the risk of not having the examination.

## **What happens at home before the examination?**

No additional preparation or dietary requirement is needed before the examination.

## **What happens during the examination?**

The procedure usually lasts about 15 minutes, but you may be at the hospital longer if we need to see emergency patients.

You will be asked to change into a hospital gown to make sure that no metal coins/objects are seen on the pictures.

We will ask you to lie down on an X-ray table, the contrast dye will be inserted through your catheter into your bladder. X-ray pictures will be taken intermittently as the bladder is filling as we need to check the bladder when it is full. When you feel it is as full as possible, we will take some x-ray pictures and ask you to roll into different positions so that all sides of your bladder can be assessed. After the pictures are taken, the catheter will be connected back to the drainage bag which will relieve the full pressure on your bladder.

## **Side effects and what happens after the examination?**

The pictures will be examined by a radiologist, who will then send a report of the results to the person who referred you.

- If you are on home leave and have had this test arranged by the ward doctor, they will either have asked you:
  - o to attend the ward after the procedure to assess the results and give you further instructions (possible catheter removal).
  - o To go home and one of the medical team who referred you for this test will be in contact with you via the telephone to discuss the results and further management.

## **Questions or concerns**

If you have any questions, you can telephone us on the number on the front of your appointment letter.

## **Further information**

Further information can be found on the following websites:

[www.oxfordradcliffe.nhs.uk/forpatients/departments/departments.aspx](http://www.oxfordradcliffe.nhs.uk/forpatients/departments/departments.aspx)

[www.nhsdirect.nhs.uk](http://www.nhsdirect.nhs.uk)

**If you are unable to keep your appointment, please help us by contacting the Radiology appointments team as soon as possible. Your appointment slot can then be given to someone else, and you will be offered an alternative date and time.**



## Further information

If you would like an interpreter, please speak to the department where you are being seen.

Please also tell them if you would like this information in another format, such as:

- Easy Read
- large print
- braille
- audio
- electronic
- another language.

We have tried to make the information in this leaflet meet your needs. If it does not meet your individual needs or situation, please speak to your healthcare team. They are happy to help.

Author: Carol Picking, Gastrointestinal Advanced Practitioner  
Michael North, Consultant Gastrointestinal Radiographer  
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[www.ouh.nhs.uk/information](http://www.ouh.nhs.uk/information)



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