



# **RADIOLOGY DEPARTMENT**

# **PATIENT INFORMATION**

# **SIALOGRAM**

# INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the Radiology Department. We hope the following information about your attendance for an Sialogram x-ray will be helpful.

## WHAT IS A SIALOGRAM?

A Sialogram is an x-ray procedure that looks at the salivary ducts and glands. A small tube is inserted into the glands. Contrast (x-ray dye) is then injected into the salivary glands, which allows them to be seen more clearly on the x-ray pictures. The dye will show any stones, narrowed areas or if the duct is dilated.

#### WILL THERE BE ANY DISCOMFORT?

You may feel mild discomfort when the tube is inserted into the salivary duct. No anaesthetic is required for this procedure.

#### PREPARATION FOR THE PROCEDURE

There is no preparation for the procedure but you may be asked to remove earring/dentures etc.

# PLEASE TELL THE STAFF IF YOU ARE PREGNANT OR SUSPECT THAT YOU MIGHT BE

Radiology Area D

#### **DURING THE PROCEDURE**

You will lie on your back and the x-ray equipment will move into position. We may perform a check x-ray to ensure the equipment is positioned over the jaw/gland area.

If required, you will be given a sour tasting liquid, such as lemon juice; this will open your salivary ducts.

With your mouth open, the salivary duct is located and the tube is inserted.

Contrast is injected into the salivary glands through the tube and images are taken. The contrast will drain from the salivary duct into your mouth once the tube is removed. This can be swallowed or spat out.

# ARE THERE ANY RISKS?

Some people occasionally have an allergic reaction to the x-ray dye. To assess the risk of this, we will ask you for information before we give you the injection.

There are some small risks involved with x-rays but only the minimum amount of radiation is used to produce the images required. The results of your x-ray will give your doctor useful information about your condition and will help to plan your treatment.

## AFTER THE PROCEDURE?

You may eat and drink normally.

There may be some discomfort or jaw pressure when the x-ray dye is injected and it is usual to have a slight swelling of the face after the examination. You may take normal painkillers, such as paracetamol, to ease this.

If you are worried about any symptoms you experience after the procedure, contact the Radiology department on 01604 523701 or contact your GP.

# HOW WILL I RECEIVE THE RESULTS?

The images will be reviewed and a report sent back to the Consultant who referred you for the procedure.

## PARKING

The nearest car park to the Radiology Department is car park 1 - Park and Pay using paybyphone. The machine also accepts card or cash. You will then need to make your way to Level 1 via the South entrance. Limited Disability parking spaces are available under the Nye Bevan building near the Emergency Department (ED).

# **OTHER INFORMATION**

If you have any queries or need to cancel your appointment please call (01604) 545636. Please could we remind parents that children are not allowed in the scan room and must not be left unattended in waiting areas.

Further information can be found at: <u>www.northamptongeneral.nhs.uk</u> and <u>www.nhs.uk</u>

Northampton General Hospital operates a smoke-free policy. This means that smoking or vaping is not allowed anywhere on the Trust site including buildings and car parks.

This information can be provided in other languages and format upon request including braille, audio cassette. Please contact Patient Advice & Liaison Service (PALS) on (01604) 545784 or email: <u>ngh-tr.pals@nhs.net</u>

# **IMPORTANT INFORMATION DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

We can all play a role in reducing the spread of coronavirus and keeping our hospitals safe. People infected with COVID-19 may have mild or no respiratory symptoms (asymptomatic) and can transmit the virus to others without being aware of it.

In line with guidance from the World Health Organisation and the UK Government we have introduced some new measures for staff and patient safety. We would ask you to please support us by:

- Not attending your appointment if you or a member of your household has any symptoms of COVID-19 (please do let us know so that we can re-arrange your appointment at the earliest opportunity).
- Bringing a face covering or mask to wear at all times when in the hospital buildings.
- Using the hand sanitiser or washing your hands whenever you enter and exit the hospital and the department your appointment is in.
- Following strict social distancing wherever possible and walking on the left side of the corridor.
- Only arriving at the scheduled time of your appointment.
- Not bringing any visitors with you unless there are special circumstances.

Kind Regards

# Heidi Smoult, Chief Executive Officer



Thank you, your feedback will be used to improve our service. Responses are anonymous.

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