

Patient information

Cystogram – Appointment Details

Imaging Department

Before Your Examination

There is no need for any special preparation before this examination. You should eat and drink normally.

Your hospital doctor or family doctor (GP) has advised that you need a cystogram.

Any alternative treatments or procedures will have been discussed at your initial consultation with your referring practitioner.

What is a cystogram?

A cystogram is an X-ray examination of your bladder using a colourless fluid known as an X-ray contrast agent, or dye. It is carried out by a Radiologist (a doctor who specialises in X-rays)/Specialist Radiographer.

What are the benefits of having a cystogram?

This procedure will help us make the correct diagnosis so we will be able to give you the correct treatment.

The risks of having a cystogram include:

- **Patients of Child-bearing Age:** X-rays may be harmful to an unborn child, especially in the early stages of pregnancy. If you are pregnant or there is any possibility of you being pregnant, please contact the X-ray department before your appointment.
- We are all exposed to natural background radiation every day of our lives. Each X-ray examination gives us a small additional dose. This dose varies with each type of examination.
- A very small risk of infection but this is very unlikely as the procedure is done under sterile conditions.

If you are worried about any of these risks, please speak to your doctor or a member of their team.

The examination

- You will be taken to a changing room and asked to put on a gown. When it is your turn you will be taken into the X-ray room and asked to lie on the X-ray table.

- A nurse or radiologist will put a small tube into your bladder if one is not already in place. The liquid will go through this tube and fill up your bladder. Your bladder will be filled until you feel as though you need to pass water. The radiologist/radiographer will watch on the T.V. monitor as you move into various positions.
- During the examination every care is taken to ensure your privacy, with only the necessary staff staying in the room.
- If you attend the examination with a urinary catheter already in your bladder then this will not be removed by the radiology team. The team that has asked you to come for the test will make arrangements for the tube to be removed. If you are unsure about this, please contact the doctor who asked for the test to be performed.

After the examination

Following the examination it is not unusual to find a few spots of blood in your urine, but this should stop after 24 hours. If these symptoms persist you should contact your GP.

Results

Your results are sent to the doctor who asked for this test to be carried out. This may be the hospital doctor or your GP.

Cancellations

If you are unable to keep this appointment, please let us know as soon as possible and we will arrange another for you. If you fail to cancel and do not attend you will be discharged back to the care of the referring clinician.

Transport

If your medical condition or mobility needs mean that you cannot get to your appointment any other way and you require transport you should ring the Patient Transport Services (PTS) who will arrange one for you.

Tel: 0151 706 4676

Car parking

Car parking for visitors and patients is available at the Q-Park multi-storey car park located on Prescot Street, L6 1LY.

For those with walking difficulties, there is a shuttle bus service operating between Q-Park and The Royal Liverpool University Hospital. The bus operates Monday to Friday, 6am-8pm. If you find you are waiting a while for the bus, the driver's number is displayed on the Q-Park exit.

Parking for Blue Badge holders is free at the Mount Vernon Street entrance. However, parking is limited, and you are advised to allow sufficient time for parking as you may need to redirect to the nearby Q-Park.

Please bring this leaflet with you when you attend the X-ray department.

Feedback

Your feedback is important to us and helps us influence care in the future.

Following your discharge from hospital or attendance at your outpatient appointment you will receive a text asking if you would recommend our service to others. Please take the time to text back, you will not be charged for the text and can opt out at any point. Your co-operation is greatly appreciated.

Further information

If you have any further questions, or require further information, please contact the Radiology Appointments Office:

Tel: 0151 706 2759

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All Trust approved information is available on request in alternative formats, including other languages, easy read, large print, audio, Braille, moon and electronically.

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