

# Patient information

# **Sialography Appointment Details**

**Imaging Department** 

### **Before Your Examination**

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

### Please tell us if you have:

- Heart murmur, an artificial heart valve, heart valve problems or if you have had rheumatic fever.
- Severe asthma.
- A known allergy to lodine

If you are pregnant or there is any possibility of you being pregnant, please contact the X-ray department before your appointment.

Your hospital doctor or family doctor (GP) has advised that you need a Sialogram. You may wish to discuss alternative treatments or procedures. Please ask your doctor or nurse if alternative treatments or procedures are available.

### What is a sialogram?

A sialogram is a simple test to show if there are any problems within one of your salivary glands, using a colourless contrast agent (X-ray dye).

### What are the benefits of having a sialogram?

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 sialogram include:

- Allergy to lodine
- The dye contains lodine and therefore any patients who are allergic to lodine should contact us as depending on the nature of your allergy we may not be able to carry out the test.

Please also tell us if you are asthmatic or if you have any serious allergies to any other substances.

• Heart murmurs

If you have any heart valve problems, an artificial heart valve, a history of having had rheumatic fever, or any known heart murmurs, you will need to have antibiotics before this procedure. Please let us know before your appointment so that this can be arranged.

## • X-rays

We are all exposed to natural background radiation every day of our lives. Each X-ray examination gives us a small additional dose. The dose varies with each examination. Everything is done within the X-ray department to minimise this dose.

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

### The examination

A fine sterile plastic tube is inserted a short way into the opening of the duct that leads to your salivary gland, either just under the front of your tongue, or on the inside of your cheek.

Some dye is slowly introduced into the tube and this then fills up the gland. The dye shows up on the X-ray and so it will reveal any areas of abnormality.

• Usually three or four X-rays are taken and then the tube is removed and you are free to go home.

## Will it hurt?

This is usually a painless procedure, although you may feel some tightness in your gland as the dye is introduced.

### How long will it take?

Generally you should allow 30 minutes although most patients will be completed in a much shorter time.

### After the examination

Your gland may feel slightly swollen for a day or two and you may also be aware of a bad taste in your mouth as some of the dye continues to empty from the gland. However this should settle down quite quickly.

#### Results

The results of your X-ray examination will be sent to the doctor who requested it. If you have been asked to make a follow-up appointment with the referring doctor after the examination you should allow at least two weeks so that the information has time to be sent to the clinic.

#### **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 not be sent another appointment.

### **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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زانیاریی پیّوهندیدار به و نهخوشانه ی له لایهن تراسته و ه پهسهند کراون، ئهگهر داوا بکریّت له فورماته کانی تردا بریتی له زمانه کانی تر ، ئیزی رید (هاسان خویندنه وه)، چایی گهوره، شریتی دهنگ، هیّلی موون و نهایکترونیکی همیه.

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