

Your Fluoroscopy Exam and You



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

- Things you might like to know

Your Well-Being

- You are having a Fluoroscopy exam so that your doctor can either make a diagnosis or monitor the progress of your treatment.
- Your doctor can explain how the information gained will help to improve your diagnosis or treatment.
- Our overriding concern is to ensure that when you have an X-ray, the benefits from making the right diagnosis or providing the correct treatment outweigh any risk involved with the X-ray itself. We make sure that this is the case before you have an X-ray.

Our Standards

- Our X-ray equipment is regularly maintained and also subject to regular checks by our Radiographers and Medical Physics teams.
- This ensures that the amount of radiation we use is kept as low as possible to get the pictures we need. If there are any technical problems during the scan, we will tell you.

About X-Rays and Radiation

- Fluoroscopy units use X-ray radiation to generate the real time, moving “pictures” we need for your diagnosis and treatment.
- We are all exposed to natural background radiation every day of our lives. This comes from our environment, the air we breathe, the food we eat and even from outer space (cosmic rays).

Putting it in Perspective

- Each medical X-ray gives us an additional amount of radiation on top of the natural background radiation. The amount varies with the type of examination.
- Common Fluoroscopy examinations include the digestive system and checking the position of tubes, catheters and stents.
- A Fluoroscopy examination may require several times more radiation than a single X-ray. Typically, the amount of radiation you will receive is less than 1 year of natural background radiation. Some examinations may be equivalent to less than one day of natural background radiation.
- The examination you will be having today carries a low or very low radiation risk.

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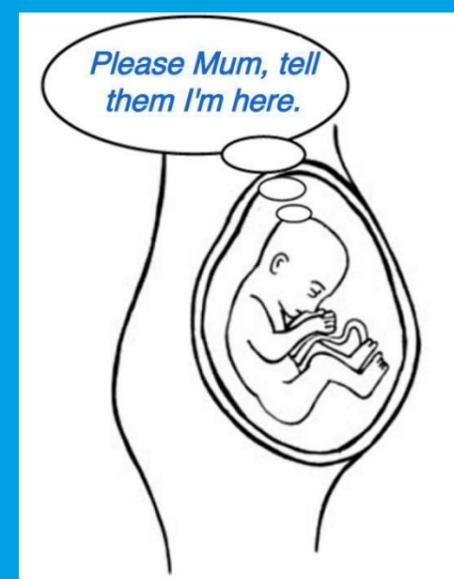


Did you know?

A Fluoroscopy exam uses X-rays to obtain moving pictures of your anatomy.

Pregnancy

Please inform the radiographer if you are pregnant.



Consent

Please feel free to ask your doctor if you have any further questions or concerns about Fluoroscopy. You can refuse to have the X-ray if you do not feel you have sufficient information.