



General Xray

What is a general xray?

This test relies on the fact that different parts of the body attenuate (stop) xrays better than others.

Xrays are ionising radiation, generated by a xray tube. The xrays are controlled by shielding down a narrow beam, directed towards the part of the body being examined.

On the opposite side of the body an xray film or detector is positioned in the path of the xrays and is exposed.

The xray film/detector is then processed and an image generated. Where the xray passes through the body easily, that part of the film will be black. Where the xrays are stopped (example bone) the film will be white and various shades of grey in between.

Why do I need a general xray?

To help diagnose fractures, soft tissue or other bony abnormalities.

What preparation is required?

No specific preparations are required.

What documentation is required?

Bring your referral and any relevant previous xrays for comparison.

Also bring your Medicare card, Pension or Healthcare card or Veteran's Affairs card details if applicable.

What you need to tell us prior to your appointment?

At the time of arranging your appointment, please advise us if you are pregnant.

What will happen during the examination?

Depending on what part of you is being examined, you may be asked to remove most of your clothes, but may keep on your underpants. Buttons, clips etc on clothes show up too well on x-ray and can be confusing to interpret or may hide abnormalities.

You may be asked to change into a disposable gown.

During the examination the radiographer will position you in different positions for different views depending on the part of the body being imaged.

How long will the examination take?

The examination is simple and will take somewhere between 10 minutes and 45 minutes depending on the area or areas requested.

What can you expect after your examination?

There should be no ill effects after the examination.

Are there any risks?

You will receive a small dose of radiation, the level of which is kept to an absolute minimum. The benefits of this examination are considered to outweigh any potential risks from receiving such a small dose.

Please, however, advise the radiographer if you are, or think you may be, pregnant.

What happens with the images and report?

After your examination you may be given a copy of the most pertinent images from your study.

A report will be provided directly to your referring doctor.

We will store digital copies of all studies and reports on our secure patient information system for comparisons with any future examinations.

For branch contact details and other services, please visit our website ncrg.com.au