

Radiology department

Loopogram

Introduction

This leaflet tells you about the procedure known as a loopogram. It explains what is involved and what the benefits and risks are. It may make you think of things you would like to discuss with your doctor.

What is a loopogram?

A loopogram is a test where contrast (X-ray dye) is put into your stoma to obtain detailed images of what is happening in your bowel or loop of bowel used to create your urinary diversion.

Who has made the decision?

Your doctors and the radiologist doing the loopogram will have discussed your situation and feel this is the best treatment option.

What to tell the doctor

- If you have any allergies.
- If you have had a previous reaction to intravenous contrast medium (the dye used for some X-rays and CT scanning).

If you have had a previous reaction to intravenous contrast medium (the dye used for some X-rays and CT scanning), please inform the radiology department before your appointment.

Agreeing to treatment

We will ask you to sign a consent form agreeing to accept the treatment that you are being offered. The basis of the agreement is that you have had The Christie's written description of the proposed treatment and that you have been given an opportunity to discuss any concerns. You are entitled to request a second opinion from another doctor who specialises in treating this cancer. You can ask your own consultant or your GP to refer you. Your consent may be withdrawn at any time before or during this treatment. Should you decide to withdraw your consent then a member of your treating team will discuss the possible consequences with you.

Who will be doing the loopogram?

A specially trained doctor called a radiologist will carry out the procedure. Radiologists have special expertise in using X-ray and scanning equipment, and also in interpreting the images produced. They need to look at these images while carrying out the procedure.

Where will the procedure take place?

In the Integrated Procedure Unit (IPU) in the special X-Ray procedure room.



Preparation for a loopogram:

There is no preparation before you come to the IPU. You may bring someone with you if you would prefer, but they will have to wait in the waiting area while you have your examination. It is advisable that you bring a spare stoma appliance for after the procedure.

What actually happens during the procedure?

This examination will be performed by a radiologist (a doctor specialising in diagnosis using X-rays); or an advanced practitioner radiographer with the help of a radiographer and a nurse.

The procedure involves the insertion of a small catheter (soft fine tube) into the stoma and inflating a small balloon on the end of the catheter to keep the catheter in place. An X-ray dye (contrast agent) is injected through the catheter to show the loops of your bowel which are joined to your stoma and X-ray pictures will be taken.

You will be lying on an X-ray bed and you may be asked to move into various positions to have X-rays taken.

Will it hurt?

You should not feel any pain during this procedure.

What will happen after the procedure?

A new stoma bag will be fitted and if you have come for this procedure as an outpatient you will be able to go home straight away. If you are an inpatient you will be sent back to the ward, no special after care will be required.

What are the risks and complications of the procedure?

Rarely, patients may have an allergic reaction to the contrast dye used in the procedure. Medications are available in the department if this does happen to occur.

Further information

This is available from the radiology department on the phone numbers below or from the following websites:

Macmillan Cancer Support: www.macmillan.org.uk

British Society of Interventional Radiology: www.bsir/patients

If you have any problems or worries, please contact:

From 9am to 5pm:

Radiology department on **0161 918 2346**

Out of hours and weekends (for emergencies):

Ring The Christie on **0161 446 3000** and ask for the on-call Radiologist

The Christie Hotline: **0161 446 3658** (24 hours)

Notes:

If you have any problems or worries, please contact:

If you need information in a different format, such as easy read, large print, BSL, braille, email, SMS text or other communication support, please tell your ward or clinic nurse.

The Christie is committed to producing high quality, evidence based information for patients. Our patient information adheres to the principles and quality statements of the Information Standard. If you would like to have details about the sources used please contact **the-christie.patient.information@nhs.net**

For information and advice visit the cancer information centres at Withington, Oldham or Salford. Opening times can vary, please check before making a special journey.



Contact The Christie Hotline for
urgent support and specialist advice
The Christie Hotline: 0161 446 3658
Open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week