

Having a sialogram

Introduction

Please bring with you: your appointment letter.

A health care assistant will greet you in the waiting area and may accompany you during the exam. The examination is conducted by a radiologist (specialist X-ray doctor) and a radiographer (X-ray professional).

A relative or friend may usually accompany you; however, they will need to wait in the waiting room. There are no childcare facilities available.

What is a sialogram?

This examination is to look at your salivary glands. This is usually because you have swelling or a difficulty in producing saliva.

Are there any risks with this test?

You will be asked before the test whether you suffer from any allergies in case you are allergic to elements in the contrast (dye) used. If this was the case, an alternative contrast would be used.

What happens during the sialogram?

A tiny blunt ended tube is put into the opening of the duct in your mouth. A special fluid is injected through the tube and a series of X-rays is taken. The examination should not be painful but may be a little uncomfortable. It will take about half an hour.

After the sialogram

The injected fluid may leave an odd taste in your mouth for a short time, but this will soon disappear. You may eat and drink as normal.

Results

A report of your examination will be sent to your referring doctor; if this is a hospital specialist, then the specialist will contact your GP with the report.

Further information

More information is available on the Trust website: www.royalberkshire.nhs.uk

This document can be made available in other languages and formats upon request.