



Fluoroscopy

Contrast Enema

What is Fluoroscopy?

- Uses X-Rays to look inside the body
 - X-Rays are beams of radiation, similar to light, that can pass through the body to create a series of pictures.
 - Contrast, a special liquid, is used to fill an organ so it is easier to see in the pictures.
- A contrast enema is a type of fluoroscopy exam.

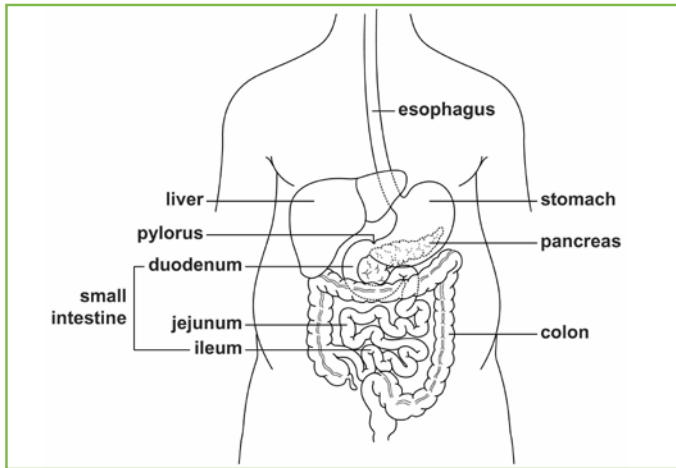
What will the contrast enema be like?

- A soft tube will be placed in the rectum and contrast will be given through it to fill the large intestine (colon).
- The contrast may make your child feel like they need to pass stool (poop).
- A special camera will use X-rays to take a series of pictures of your child's large intestine.
- The exam should take about 1 hour.



Are there any risks?

- Rarely the intestine can be torn.
- Rarely a child has an allergic reaction to the contrast.
- Radiation may be harmful.



What can this test tell my child's doctor?

- It will show your child's large intestine and how it is working.
- It may show the cause of your child's clinical problem.
- It may tell the doctor what can be done for your child's clinical problem.

What can we expect after the test?

- Your child's stool may be more liquid for a day or two. This is normal and should not worry you.

When will I get the results?

- Your child's doctor will tell you the results.
- It usually takes about 1 day for your doctor to get the results.

Questions before the test or after hours?

Contact the radiology department

Questions after the test?

Contact the doctor that requested the test

For more information go to:
www.imagegently.org

Should I allow my child to have a contrast enema even though it uses radiation?

- Usually the benefits of a contrast enema outweigh the small risk from the radiation.
- A contrast enema may be the only way your doctor can learn the cause of your child's problem.
- This test may solve problems faster and with less pain than other tests.

How can we lower the radiation to my child?

- Newer equipment can use lower X-ray doses.
- Body parts not being looked at can be protected with lead shields.
- Only use X-ray tests when they are needed.

How much radiation is used in this test?

We are all exposed to small amounts of radiation daily. This background radiation can come from soil, rocks, air, water, and the sun. The amount of radiation used in a contrast enema depends on the size and shape of the child. We can compare this radiation to the amount of background radiation we get in a day.



Radiation Source	Background Radiation
3 hour airline flight	1.5 days
Chest X-ray	1.5 days
Contrast enema	1.5 years

Is this radiation harmful to my child?

Even small amounts of radiation carry a low risk of being harmful. It is not known if small amounts of radiation increase the risk of cancer.