

ARTHROGRAM (Joint X-Ray)



APPOINTMENT:

___/___/___ @ ___:___ am/pm
Re-schedule/cancellations:
308.995.3305

Please arrive at the hospital 15 minutes prior to your appointment to check in.

What is an Arthrogram?

An arthrogram is used to check a joint to find out what is causing your symptoms or problem with your joint. This exam is performed using both x-ray and MRI. This allows your doctor to see the soft tissue structures of your joint, such as tendons, ligaments, muscles, cartilage, and your joint capsule.

DURATION: X-ray - 30 minutes MRI - 45 minutes

Procedure

1. You will be asked to remove any jewelry or metal objects from the joint area.
2. You will sit or lie down with your joint under an x-ray viewer that is hooked to a video screen that can show x-ray pictures.
3. The skin over your joint will be cleaned with a special soap & draped with sterile towels.
4. A local anesthetic is used to numb the skin & tissues over the joint. You will feel a prick & sting when the anesthetic is given.
5. A needle is put into your joint area. MRI contrast dye will be injected into the joint space. You may feel tingling, pressure, pain, or fullness in your joint as the dye is put in.
6. You may be asked to move your joint around to help the dye spread inside your joint. X-rays will also be taken at this time.
7. You will then be taken back to the MRI scanner to have dedicated images taken of the joint.
8. After the arthrogram, rest your joint for about 12 hours. Do not do any strenuous activity for 1-2 days.

You may have some mild pain, tenderness, & swelling in your joint after the test. Ice packs & nonprescription pain relievers, used as the package directs, may help you feel more comfortable. You may also hear grating, clicking, or cracking sounds when you move your joint. This is normal & goes away in about 24 hours. If you have ongoing pain, tenderness or swelling, tell your doctor.

CARE YOU DESERVE. EXPERTS YOU TRUST.