

# Sialogram

An information guide



# Sialogram

## What is a Sialogram?

A sialogram is an x-ray investigation to look at the salivary ducts and glands in your mouth. There are two main salivary glands that are examined by x-ray and these are the sub-mandibular glands which empty saliva into the mouth just under the tongue and the parotid glands which empty saliva into the inside of the cheek.

## Who performs your investigation?

A radiologist or specially trained radiographer will perform this investigation. Radiologists are doctors specially trained to interpret the images and carry out more complex examinations. The examination may be carried out by a specially trained radiographer. They have been specially trained to perform these examination's. They are supported by radiographers who are highly trained to carry out x-rays and other imaging procedures.

## Are you required to make any special preparation?

There is no preparation for this investigation. However if your gland is infected please contact the radiology booking centre on 0161 778 2233 to cancel this appointment and make a new one.

## What does the investigation involve?

Once you have arrived in the x-ray department the investigation will be explained to you and you will be taken into the x-ray room.

You will then be asked to lie on the x-ray table and some control x-rays will be taken. A small, thin tube will then be placed into the opening of the gland in your mouth and some x-ray dye (contrast) will be administered through this tube. Three or four x-rays will then be taken whilst the gland is outlined with the dye. No needles are involved as there are already holes in your cheeks and under your tongue where the small tube will be inserted.

You will then be asked to swill your mouth out with lemon juice to empty the salivary glands and a further x-ray is taken to make sure the gland has emptied. If you have an allergy to lemon/ citrus juice please make us aware when you come for your investigation and we will avoid using it.

### **How long does the investigation take?**

The investigation takes about 30 minutes.

### **Are there any side/after effects?**

You may experience some swelling in the gland which you can gently massage and a warm compress may also help.

### **How do you get the results of your investigation?**

The results of the investigation will be sent to the consultant that referred you for the investigation.

### **IMPORTANT-COULD YOU BE PREGNANT?**

This examination does involve using a small amount of radiation. This dose is kept to a minimum to reduce the risks to yourself.

This appointment for x-ray must fall within the first 28 days of your menstrual cycle, counting the day you start your period as day one. If this appointment does not fall within these 28 days or if you are at all uncertain, please contact the radiology booking centre on 0161 778 2233.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding your investigation please contact the radiology booking centre on 0161 778 2233.

**If English is not your first language and you need help, please contact the Interpretation and Translation Service**

Jeśli angielski nie jest twoim pierwszym językiem i potrzebujesz pomocy, skontaktuj się z działem tłumaczeń ustnych i pisemnych

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Dacă engleza nu este prima ta limbă și ai nevoie de ajutor, te rugăm să contactezi Serviciul de interpretare și traducere

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**For general enquiries please contact the Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) on 0161 604 5897**


**For enquiries regarding clinic appointments, clinical care and treatment please contact 0161 624 0420 and the Switchboard Operator will put you through to the correct department / service**

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