

A guide to your Sialogram Examination

This information leaflet will explain what Sialogram is and why you have been sent for one. Please read this leaflet carefully. If you have any questions or concerns not answered by this leaflet, please contact the Radiology imaging department (details at the end of this leaflet).

What is a sialogram?

A sialogram is a test that uses x-rays and a contrast medium (dye) to produce a detailed image of the salivary glands, either the parotid or submandibular glands or both. These glands drain saliva into your mouth through small ducts. This is done to check the functionality of these ducts and if there are any blockages/issues.

Who will perform the procedure?

The sialogram is carried out by either Radiologist or a Radiology Registrar, both are trained professionals in this type of scan.

What are the benefits of having a sialogram?

This examination will provide information on the structure and function of the salivary ducts to assist with any treatment if any blockages are discovered.

What are the risks?

A sialogram is a relatively low risk examination. The Radiologist/registrar will discuss these with you prior to the procedure.

The contrast used very rarely occurs any reactions, however, if you have ever had a test that uses x-ray and contrast and had a reaction to it, you should tell the radiologist or radiographer before you have the sialogram.

This procedure in fluoroscopy uses x-rays which involves radiation. The dose you get from this examination is small and the associated risks are low. The benefits of having the exam outweigh any risk. The staff within the fluoroscopy room are responsible for making sure the dose you receive is kept as low as necessary to aid your diagnosis or treatment.

Are there any alternatives?

Your referrer has decided that a sialogram would be the most useful in your case. The examination will help your referrer to assess you more fully and plan any further treatment that might be necessary. If you would like more information about alternative imaging tests, please speak to the doctor or health care professional managing your care.

Before your procedure:

What happens on the day of your procedure?

You can eat and drink as normal on the day of your sialogram. No preparation is necessary.

Please let imaging staff know if you **ARE** pregnant **OR** if there is a chance that you might be

Consent – asking for your consent

The radiographer will ask you if you are happy for the sialogram to go ahead. This is called verbal consent. If you do not wish to have the sialogram or are undecided, please tell the radiographer. If you wish to have a chaperone present during your scan, please alert a health care professional before the scan begins.

Students/ trainees may be present during the examination but only with your verbal consent.

Please remember that you can ask the radiologist/ registrar any questions you have at any time before, during or after your scan.

What happens during the sialogram?

- You will be asked to lie down on the fluoroscopy table on your back
- You will be asked to rinse your mouth with some lemon flavoured liquid to help open the ducts
- A thin plastic tube will be inserted into the small hole through where the saliva enters the mouth from the salivary gland
- A small amount of x-ray dye is injected into the area whilst real time x-rays are being taken to assess the location and the cause of the problem

What happens after your examination?

Once the examination is complete you can go home. The scan will be reported by the radiologist and the report will be sent to your referring doctor or other professional who referred you for the scan.

When will I get the results?

You may be able to discuss the results with the performing radiologist/registrar once it is complete. The performing radiologist will formally report on your procedure and images on our system and a copy of the report will be sent to the referring clinician. Any follow up examinations will be arranged by your referring clinician.

Image sharing

Your images will be electronically stored on the hospital picture archiving system. This data can be accessed throughout the Belfast Health and Social Care Trust and other doctors and health care professionals who are directly involved in your care. The ability to share images and radiological reports will improve the safety and quality of your care by ensuring that the right information is available in the right place at the right time.

In order to improve the medical services we provide we may also use your data as anonymously as possible for internal audit and medical education. If you would prefer that your data is not used for these purposes, please inform a member of staff when you attend for your examination.

If your data is to be used for research, then a separate consent process will be used. You will be asked for your consent, should this be the case.

Contact us

If you have any queries, we will be happy to answer any questions on the day of your sialogram or you can contact us on the number given on your appointment letter or on the below:

02896150971

02896150113

Feedback

We hope you found the information in this leaflet helpful. If it did not tell you what you needed to know or you would like to provide any feedback on your experience please let us know so that we can make any necessary improvements.

You can provide feedback on your experience:

Telephone: **028 9504 8000** (Monday-Friday: 9am-4pm)

Textphone: **18001 028 950 48000**

By email: compliments@belfasttrust.hscni.net

By email: complaints@belfasttrust.hscni.net

By completing an online form: <http://www.belfasttrust.hscni.net/contact/FeedbackForm.htm>

Care Opinion



We invite you to share your experience by clicking the following link:
<https://www.careopinion.org.uk/>

or by scanning the following QR code on your smartphone or tablet:



Language and accessible support services

Deaf/ Hard of Hearing

If a Sign Language interpreter is required, please either telephone **028 9615 8900** via the Sign Video remote interpreting service (<https://signvideo.co.uk/deaf-community/>) or email us at MPHAdminFOH@belfasttrust.hscni.net and we will arrange one for your appointment. Please have your H&C number ready when calling or include it in your email. This can be found at the top right corner of any Health and Social Care letters you may have received.

If you are unable to hear on the phone and need to contact us with regards to your appointment you can email us at MPHAdminFOH@belfasttrust.hscni.net.

Do you need this information in another format or language?

The Trust has access to interpreting and translation services. If you need this information in another language or format, including Braille, large print, CD, audio tape please contact the telephone number **028 9615 8900** or e-mail address MPHAdminFOH@belfasttrust.hscni.net, and we will do our best to meet your needs.

Polish - Czy potrzebujesz tych informacji w innym formacie lub języku?

Fundusz ma dostęp do usług w zakresie tłumaczeń ustnych i pisemnych. Jeśli potrzebujesz tych informacji w innym języku lub formacie, w tym w piśmie Braille'a, dużym druku, na płycie CD, kasecie magnetofonowej, skontaktuj się z nami pod numerem telefonu lub adresem e-mail **028 9615 8900** / MPHAdminFOH@belfasttrust.hscni.net, a my dołożymy wszelkich starań, aby spełnić Twoje potrzeby.

Arabic - هل تحتاج هذه المعلومات بصيغة أو بلغة أخرى؟

تستطيع الجمعية توفير خدمات الترجمة الفورية والتحريرية. إذا احتجت هذه المعلومات بلغة أو بصيغة أخرى، بما فيها صيغة برايل Braille أو صيغة بالأحرف الكبيرة، أو في سي دي CD أو في شريط مسموع، يُرجى الاتصال برقم التليفون أو عبر البريد الإلكتروني MPHAdminFOH@belfasttrust.hscni.net / **028 9615 8900**، وسوف نبذل قصارى جهدنا في تلبية احتياجاتك.

Lithuanian - Ar jums reikia šios informacijos kitu formatu ar kalba?

Tarnyba gali suteikti vertimo žodžiu ir raštu paslaugas. Jei reikia šios informacijos kita kalba ar formatu, įskaitant Brailio raštą, didelį šriftą, kompaktinį diską, garso įrašą, skambinkite telefonu arba susisiekite el. paštu MPHAdminFOH@belfasttrust.hscni.net / **028 9615 8900** ir mes padarysime viską, kad patenkintume jūsų poreikius.

Romanian - Aveți nevoie de aceste informații într-un alt format sau altă limbă?

Trustul are acces la servicii de interpretariat și traducere. Dacă aveți nevoie de aceste informații într-o altă limbă sau într-un alt format, inclusiv Braille, tipărire cu caractere de mari dimensiuni, CD, înregistrare audio, atunci vă rugăm să ne contactați la numărul de

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telefon sau la adresa de e-mail **MPHAdminFOH@belfasttrust.hscni.net / 028 9615 8900**, iar noi vom face tot posibilul pentru satisfacerea necesităților dumneavoastră.

Tetum - Ita presiza atu informasaun ida ne'e iha formatu ka lian seluk ka lae?

Fidusiáriu ida ne'e iha asesu ba servisu durubasa no tradusaun. Se Ita presiza informasaun ida ne'e iha lian ka formatu seluk, inklui letra Braille, letra boot, CD, kasete audio, entaun favór telefone número ka enderesu e-mail **MPHAdminFOH@belfasttrust.hscni.net / 028 9615 8900**, no ami sei halo esforsu tomak atu kumpre Ita-nia nesesidade sira.

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