



Fluoroscopy

Upper GI and Upper GI
with Small Bowel Follow Through

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.
- Both an upper GI and an upper GI small bowel follow through are types of fluoroscopy exams.

What will the GI exam be like?

- Your child will drink contrast from a straw, sippy cup, or bottle.
- A special camera will use X-rays to take a series of pictures.

Upper GI:

- Pictures of your child's stomach
- Should take about 30-45 minutes

Small bowel follow through:

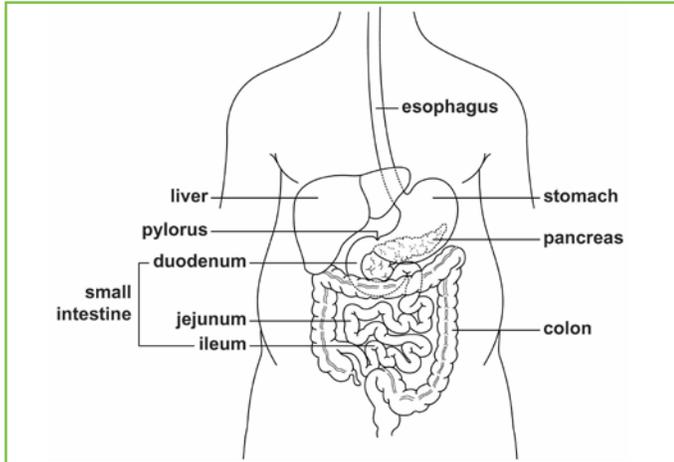
- Pictures of your child's small intestine
- Can take up to 3 hours or longer because the contrast has to travel further



Are there any risks?

- Contrast may go into the breathing tube.
- Radiation may be harmful.
- Rarely a child has an allergic reaction to the contrast.

What can this test tell your child's doctor?



- It will show your child's stomach and/or small intestine and how they are 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 look white for several days. 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.

Should I allow my child to have a GI exam

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

even though it uses radiation?

- Usually the benefits of a GI exam outweigh the small risk from the radiation.
- A GI exam 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 GI exam 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

3 hour airline flight

Chest X-ray

Upper GI

Background Radiation

1.5 days

1.5 days

1 year

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.