

Information for patients having an X-ray

What is an X-ray?

This is a picture of the inside of the body (usually the bones) produced by controlled radiation (x-rays).

Do I need to make special preparations?

We suggest you avoid wearing any jewellery as Heart of England NHS Foundation Trust does not accept any liability for loss or damage to your personal belongings. You may eat, drink and take medication as normal.

For lumbar spine, pelvis, hip and abdomen x-rays for female patients between the ages of 12-55 years the examination must be performed within 28 days after the start of your last menstrual period. If you haven't already done so please inform the department if your examination falls after this date or if you have had a hysterectomy.

Can I bring a friend?

Yes, but for safety reasons they cannot accompany you into the x-ray room except in special circumstances.

When you arrive

Please book in at reception. You may be asked to change into a patient gown.

What happens during the x-ray?

You will be taken into the x-ray room where the radiographer will check your name, address and date of birth and explain the procedure for your examination. You will be positioned according to the x-ray being taken, which may mean sitting or standing or lying on the x-ray table.

Are there any risks?

Exposure to radiation from medical x-rays is strictly controlled and kept to a minimum. You will only have an x-ray if it will aid your treatment.

When will I get my results?

The radiographer will inform you where and when you will receive your results.

Where can I find more information?

Further information is available on <http://www.goingfora.com>