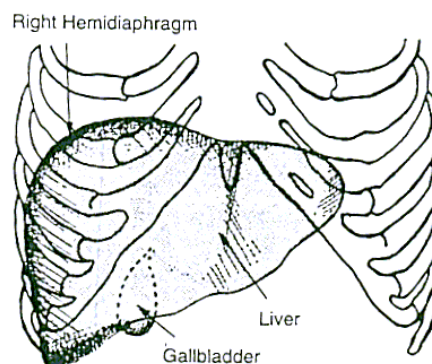


# Your T-Tube Cholangiogram

## WHAT IS A T-TUBE CHOLANGIOGRAM?

A T-tube cholangiogram is an x-ray of the biliary duct system. The ducts (passageways) that transport bile between your liver, gallbladder and small intestine cannot be seen on x-ray without the use of a contrast material (x-ray dye). The contrast is injected inside through your T-tube.



## WHAT CAN A T-TUBE CHOLANGIOGRAM SHOW?

This exam can show blockages within your common bile duct or hepatic ducts. The most common reason for this exam is to look for remaining stones or stone fragments in the ducts after surgery. This gives your doctor important information that may help in your diagnosis and treatment. It can help your doctor decide when to remove your T-tube. Please let someone know if you may be pregnant; x-ray may harm an unborn child.

## HOW DO I GET READY FOR MY T-TUBE CHOLANGIOGRAM?

There is no special preparation for this exam. You may eat and drink as ordered. You may want to bring a sweater and something to read or handwork to do while you wait.

## WHAT WILL HAPPEN IN THE X-RAY ROOM?

You will be asked to put on a hospital gown.

You will be assisted onto a special x-ray table. The x-ray staff and doctor will explain more about your T-tube cholangiogram. They can answer any questions you have.

The x-ray doctor will clean your T-tube with antiseptic solution. Then the doctor will inject the contrast material into the tube. This should not be uncomfortable for you.

A series of x-ray pictures will be taken. You will be asked to move in different positions. When each picture is taken, you will be asked to hold your breath and remain as still as possible.

## WHAT DO I DO AFTER MY T-TUBE CHOLANGIOGRAM?

After the exam is completed, you can return to your normal activities. The contrast material is clear. It may pass through your bowel but will not change the color of your stool. If your T-tube is connected to a drainage bag or bulb, the contrast material may pass with other drainage.

## **HOW LONG DOES THE EXAM TAKE?**

Including waiting time, your visit for a T-tube cholangiogram will take about one hour. Please understand that you may have to wait a few minutes during your x-ray while the films are being checked. It is important that the films have all the needed information.

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The information on this Website is provided for general informational purposes only and **SHOULD NOT** be relied upon as a substitute for sound professional medical advice, evaluation or care from your physician or other qualified healthcare provider. If you have a medical problem or a health-related question, consult your physician or call Health On-Call at 336-716-2255 or 1-800-446-2255.

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