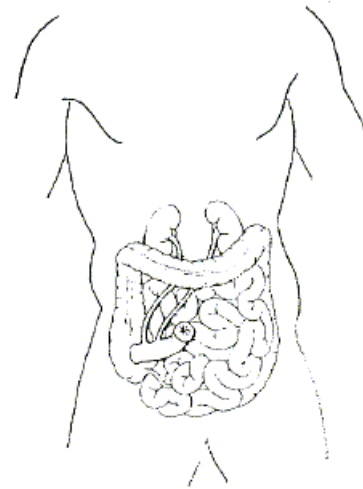


Your Loopogram

WHAT IS A LOOPOGRAM AND WHAT DOES IT SHOW?

A loopogram is an x-ray of your ileal conduit. This x-ray shows your kidneys, your ureters, your ileum (the loop of bowel that the ureters are now attached to), and your stoma (the opening on the outside of your abdomen). Contrast material (x-ray dye) is used to make these parts of the body show up on x-ray pictures. The dye is injected into your stoma through a thin catheter.



WHY AM I HAVING A LOOPOGRAM?

Your doctor has scheduled you for this x-ray to check your anastomosis site (the place at which your ureters are connected to your ileum). Your exam may be just a follow-up exam or you may be having symptoms that indicate a problem with your normal urine flow. These symptoms may include abdominal pain, bloody or foul-smelling urine or decreased urine output in your drainage bag. Ask your doctor to explain more about why you are having this exam.

HOW DO I GET READY FOR MY LOOPOGRAM?

There is no special preparation for this exam. You may want to bring extra ostomy supplies with you to replace any removed for your exam. You may also want to bring 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 technologist or doctor will either remove your ostomy bag or cut a small opening in the front. An x-ray doctor will place a thin lubricated catheter into your stoma. The doctor will use a syringe of air or water to inflate a small balloon at the end of the catheter. This balloon will help seal off the opening of your stoma during the exam.

Next, the catheter will be connected to a bottle of clear x-ray dye. As the dye flows inside your body, pictures will be taken. You may be asked to move in different positions. As each x-ray is taken you will be asked to hold your breath and remain as still as possible.

WHAT DO I DO AFTER MY LOOPOGRAM?

The x-ray technologist or nurse will help replace your ostomy bag. Some of the x-ray dye may drain back into your bag. This is normal.

HOW LONG DOES THE EXAM TAKE?

Including waiting time, your visit will take about one hour. Please understand that you may have to wait a few minutes during your exam while the films are being checked. It is important that the films contain all the necessary information

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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