

SIALOGRAPHY

What is it?

Sialography is an examination of one of your salivary glands, either the parotid or submandibular gland.

What preparation is needed for the examination?

There is no special preparation required for this examination.

What exactly happens during the examination?

When you arrive in the Department either a radiographer, radiographer's helper or nurse will take you into a cubicle to get you changed for the examination. They will then take you into the x-ray room, where they will explain the examination to you. Please feel free to ask them any questions you may have. The examination is performed by a Consultant Radiologist (doctor) and they will explain the procedure to you before they start. A very small cannula is introduced into the opening of the duct of the salivary gland in your mouth. A small volume of x-ray dye is then injected into the duct to fill the main duct in the ductal system within the gland. You will be asked to suck a lemon to empty the gland and then some films will be taken by the radiologist.

Does this procedure hurt?

Finding the duct may be difficult and filling does cause slight discomfort, but the examination is never painful.

How long will it take?

You should expect to be in the Department for at least one hour.

When will I get my results?

When you have had the examination, the radiographer will tell you how and approximately when you will get the results but they are usually sent to the doctor who referred you to us within 48 hours.

Aftercare

There is no specific aftercare following this procedure.

HCA

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