

Virtual Colonography

Virtual Colonography is a technique which creates a 3D model of the colon using a spiral CT (Computed Tomography) scanner. Using sophisticated computer graphics, the model is stored on a computer disc and the colon is examined throughout its length without having to use an endoscopic instrument.

Preparation

As with any examination of the colon, a clean, well-prepared bowel is important for accuracy and this is no different with virtual colonoscopy. For this reason, a full preparation is required.

Separate instructions will be issued when you make your appointment.

Procedure

No anaesthetic is required and this is an out-patient procedure.

An injection of a muscle relaxant is made into an upper arm vein in order to relax the bowel for the duration of the examination. A small tube is inserted into the rectum. The colon is then distended with gas and two series of images are obtained.

The data from these images is transferred to the computer disc for computer processing at a later stage. As much air as possible is evacuated from the colon and you will then be able to leave. There are no special precautions.

The information will be constructed and a report issued the following day for your doctor to review.

Please contact your referring doctor to discuss the results.

How long will the procedure take?

The procedure normally takes approximately 30 minutes.

Following the procedure

There is an increased amount of gas within the colon which, after the relaxing agent ceases to have effect, will be expelled in a normal way.

PLEASE BRING ANY PREVIOUS X-RAYS OR SCANS WITH YOU ON THE DAY OF YOUR EXAMINATION.

CONFIRM ANY PREPARATION REQUIRED WITH STAFF WHEN MAKING YOUR APPOINTMENT.

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Your doctor may request to go filmless

With the growing use of digital imaging, Ultrascan Radiology is giving doctors the opportunity to not receive hard copy films and to replace them with electronic reports and images – in other words, go “filmless”.

If your referring doctor elects to go “filmless,” once you have completed your medical imaging examination, you will no longer have to wait for x-ray films. The images will be sent electronically to your doctor’s computer together with a report from our Radiologist.

If you require films in the future, all films are stored digitally and can be requested at anytime with 24 hour notice.

VIRTUAL COLONOGRAPHY IS PERFORMED AT OUR ERINA, KANWAL, LONG JETTY & BRISBANE WATERS CLINICS

Central Coast Radiology & Nuclear Medicine clinics

Erina

194 The Entrance Road, Erina 2250
Ph: 4365 1866 | Fax: 4365 1814

Long Jetty

4/13-15 Thompson Street, Long Jetty 2261
Ph: 4332 5532 | Fax: 4332 6262

Brisbane Waters

21 Vidler Avenue, Woy Woy 2256
(in Brisbane Waters Private Hospital)
Radiology: Ph: 4343 1066 | Fax: 4344 2171
Nuclear Medicine: Ph: 4342 2061 | Fax: 4342 7681

Gosford (Nuclear Medicine)

99-101 Holden Street, Gosford 2250
Ph: 4323 1844 | Fax: 4323 1261

Kanwal

654 Pacific Highway, Kanwal 2259
(in the Medical Complex at Wyong Hospital)
Radiology: Ph: 4393 0200 | Fax: 4393 0201
Nuclear Medicine: Ph: 4393 1000 | Fax: 4393 2111

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