

Your Appointment is:

Time: _____

Day: _____

Date: _____

Barium Enema

Patient
Information



If you have any other questions,
please do not hesitate to contact
us or your referring doctor

Penrith Imaging Branches

Barium Enemas are conducted at the branches
below

16-18 Castlereagh Street,
Penrith 2750

Phone: (02) 4731 6977

Fax: (02) 4721 2756

Suite 4, Ground Floor
68 Derby Street,
Penrith 2750

Phone: (02) 4737 3300

Fax: (02) 4737 3301



PENRITH  **IMAGING**

What is a Barium Enema?

This is an x-ray examination to visualise the large bowel or colon. To demonstrate this adequately, you are required to make an appointment and will be given instructions on how to prepare the bowel for the test.

When is it used?

There are many conditions that can be examined using this procedure. Your doctor will explain why it is appropriate for you. The examination demonstrates the anatomy of the bowel and also gives an indication of function.

How do I make an appointment?

These examinations are available at the Penrith Imaging branches shown on the back of this form. If you are diabetic or have had previous problems with a similar procedure, please notify our staff when making your appointment.

Do I need to do anything?

When you make an appointment you will be given instructions on how to prepare your bowel. This will include a special diet and laxatives which are used over 4 days to ensure a satisfactory examination. Preparation kits are available at most of our branches.

Will it take long?

This examination is normally completed within 30 minutes.

What happens?

To see the bowel, the radiologist will use a mixture of liquid barium and air which is put into the bowel via a small tube inserted into the back passage (rectum). Optimal visualisation of the lining of the bowel is gained when coated with barium and distended by air. This may give you the feeling of being full of 'wind'. During the procedure you will lie on the x-ray table and be asked to roll into a variety of positions to ensure your bowel is well coated with the barium and air mixture. You will be asked to hold your breath for a few seconds when films are being taken. As soon as all films have been taken, most of the fluid and air are drained away, the tube is then removed and you may go to the toilet. This will relieve any discomfort that may have developed. After the test, it is advisable to drink extra fluids for several days to help clear the barium from your system.

Will I feel anything?

There may be some discomfort during the procedure so the radiologist may wish to give you a small injection of Buscopan to relax the bowel.

Are there any side effects?

The injection of Buscopan may cause blurred vision for about 15-20 minutes.

**Please Remember to bring your referral
and any previous films with you**