



X-ray examination

X-ray images help us to make the correct diagnosis.

In principle X-ray images can be used on any part of the body and on all types of tissue.

However, X-ray imaging is mainly used to examine bones.

What is X-ray imaging?

An X-ray examination uses invisible, short-wave electromagnetic X-ray beams. When the X-ray image is taken, X-rays are sent through the patient. The beams hit a photographic plate which is coloured more or less black, depending on how much radiation is absorbed by the patient's body tissue in the process. Hard tissue (bone) absorbs more radiation and creates white shadows on the X-ray image.

We use modern digital technology. An X-ray sensitive plate transmits the image signal to a computer, which creates the final X-ray image on a screen. The digital images are stored on the computer.

Are X-rays dangerous?

At any X-ray examination, every effort is made to use as low a dose of radiation as possible. If you are pregnant, you and your doctor will decide whether the examination can wait.

At Aleris, we offer X-ray examinations of:

- Thorax (heart and lungs)
- Spinal cord (cervical, thoracic, lumbar, os sacrum and coccyx)
- Joints and bones in the upper body (shoulder, upper arm, elbow, lower arm, wrist and hand)
- Joints and bones in the lower body (pelvis, hip, thigh, knee, lower leg, ankle, foot)

If you wish to know more about the risks involved in X-ray imaging, there is more information on our website.

When we take an X-ray of e.g. your thorax, you will be exposed a dose of about 0.1 mSv of radiation. By way of comparison, the natural radiation dose per year (radon, the Earth's crust, food and cosmic radiation) is 3.0 mSv.

Referral

To get an X-ray examination, you have to be referred by your GP or a specialist physician. This is a requirement of the Danish Health and Medicines Authority when X-rays are used.

An Aleris physician can refer you directly if, during a preliminary examination, he or she assesses that X-ray images are required. In this case, X-rays will usually be taken on the same day.

Preparation

No preparation is necessary before an X-ray examination.

The examination

How long does it take?

An X-ray examination takes 5-15 minutes. You can leave the hospital as soon as the examination is over

How is the examination performed?

The radiographer, who will perform the X-ray examination, will call you into the examination room.

After the examination

Examination results

When the images have been seen and described by our radiologist (specialist physician), they are sent to the physician who referred you. It takes up to 5 days for the results to reach the physician who made the referral. You will receive the results of the examination from the physician who referred you.

Side-effects

There is normally no risk involved in an ordinary X-ray examination.

Patient satisfaction

To ensure that Aleris continues to provide the best care, treatment and service, please complete our patient satisfaction questionnaire, which you will receive in the mail (if you have given us permission to send one). Comments and criticism, whether positive or negative, are important to us as they ensure that we can continue to offer the best possible treatments for our patients.

There are stands in every unit, where we ask if you would recommend Aleris to others. To respond, touch the smiley you think is most appropriate.

Any complaints about your progress at Aleris we ask that you please forward directly to Aleris Directors, att. Medical officer, Aleris Gyngemose Parkvej 66, 2860 Søborg.

If you do not wish to complain to us directly, you have access to lodge a complaint via Patientombuddet's (the National Agency for Patients' Rights and Complaints') website: www.patientombuddet.dk. The web site provides guidance and a complaints form (in Danish).

If you believe that a medical error has been made and you wish to claim compensation, you should contact Patientforsikringen (the Patient Insurance Association).

Visit www.patientforsikringen.dk. The website provides guidance and a complaint form (in Danish and English).



For your own notes

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