

FL Small Bowel

To Schedule: (319) 861-7778

Questions about Procedure: (319) 398-6050

What is a Small Bowel Series procedure?

The small bowel study may or may not be performed with the Upper GI series. Following ingestion of several glasses of barium, delayed images of the gastrointestinal tract will be obtained at specified time intervals by the technologist. The small bowel series is complete when the barium reaches the colon, which usually occurs in 1-4 hours.

The patient will usually remain the department while the technologist takes images during this time. The speed with which the barium moves through the small intestine will depend on the patient's willingness to drink the barium and the presence of any disturbances in the motility of the bowel.

The patient should be prepared to remain in the department for several hours if necessary. The procedure will take approximately 1-4 hours.

Preparation:

1. The patient may eat or drink anything they want the day before the exam until 11 p.m. They are encouraged to drink plenty of fluids.
2. After 11 p.m. the patient is not to eat or drink anything until the exam has been completed.
3. After 12, midnight, the patient is not to smoke or chew gum until the exam has been completed.

PLEASE BRING THE FOLLOWING TO YOUR APPOINTMENT:

A PHOTO ID TO VERIFY YOUR IDENTITY

A LIST OF CURRENT MEDICATIONS YOU ARE TAKING

Additional Information:

1. If the patient routinely follows a special diet the physician should be consulted concerning the patient's diet for this prep.
2. X-ray examination during pregnancy should be limited so that a developing baby will not be exposed to unnecessary radiation. The physician can consult with a radiologist if he/she has any questions concerning examinations during pregnancy.
3. If there are questions concerning medications, contact the physician or the Radiology Department.
4. All patients receiving a small bowel series will be instructed to drink plenty of liquids for several days following the procedure unless otherwise indicated by the ordering physician. A mild laxative may be taken if the patient is easily constipated (consult the ordering physician). The patient will be able to return to his/her normal diet unless otherwise indicated by the patient's physician.

Parking/Registration:

Park in the Mercy Medical Center 10th Street Parking Ramp, located at the corner of 10th Street and 8th Ave. SE. You will be pre-registered, so you can proceed to **Ground (G)** level and follow the signs to “Radiology (X-Ray),” also located on Ground (G) level.

Procedure Results (Who interprets the results):

A radiologist will review the images shortly after the exam is completed. A written report will be sent to your doctor. Your doctor will discuss the results with you. Please allow your physician time to review these results, usually 2 business days after the exam.

Your appointment date and time:

Procedure date: _____

Procedure time: _____ (Please arrive 15 minutes early)