

UNITED HOSPITAL CENTER PATIENT EDUCATION

ARTHROGRAM



Your physician has referred you to the Diagnostic Services Department at United Hospital Center for an x-ray procedure known as an Arthrogram.

An arthrogram is an examination of a joint in the body that cannot be seen on a routine x-ray examination. The purpose of an Arthrogram is to show a joint and/or structures in a joint, such as cartilages, ligaments, joint linings, and any loose bodies in the joint.

After arriving in the Diagnostic Imaging Department, you will be asked to sign a consent form. You will then be placed on a radiographic table and the radiologist will inject a local anesthetic (numbing) into the skin around the joint. The radiologist will then insert a needle into the joint space. Once the needle is in place, contrast medium (x-ray dye) is injected into the joint. After the dye injection, the study will be recorded on x-ray film. The dye that is injected will be absorbed by your body.

Risks involved with this test include: infection and/or reaction to the contrast medium. Some discomfort may be experienced in the joint, but this should be temporary. You might want to consider having a friend or family member accompany you to transport you home.

LENGTH: Approximately 45 minutes

If you are pregnant, or think you might be, tell your doctor and the technologist **BEFORE** your exam.

DISCLAIMER: The content contained in this patient education is presented solely with the intent of providing public service information on health and health-related issues. This information is neither intended nor implied to be a substitute for professional medical advice. Always consult your physician or other qualified health provider prior to utilizing any of the information presented in this patient education. UHC makes no warranty, representation or guaranty as to the content, accuracy, timeliness or completeness of the information presented in this patient education or that the information may be relied upon for any reason.

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