



Welcome to the OSF Saint Anthony Medical Center Diagnostic Radiology Department.

You have been scheduled to have a **Cisternogram**. This is a diagnostic test using fluoroscopy (a form of x-ray).

This information will help you understand the test that has been scheduled.

Thank you for trusting OSF for your medical imaging needs.

**When to come:**

Please arrive 15 minutes before your appointment time to check in.

**What to Bring with You:**

You may have had x-rays done at a hospital other than OSF Saint Anthony Medical Center. Please bring copies of the pictures with you the day of the test. You may also request that the doctor's office send the pictures or results to OSF Saint Anthony Medical Center before your test.

**Preparation:**

You cannot have anything to eat or drink after midnight the night before your test, except clear liquids. No Pulp juice or tea/coffee with sugar or cream.

**Jewelry:**

Please remove all jewelry from your neck, chest, and belly before your test.

**Family:**

Family or friends are asked to stay in the waiting area during the test

**Pregnancy Testing:**

Pregnancy testing will now be performed on females receiving diagnostics between the ages of 10 and 55 years old if you have not had your tubes tied or a hysterectomy. Home pregnancy tests are not acceptable. If you know that you are pregnant, please notify your doctor.

**Medications:**

You may take medication as prescribed with 2 to 3 sips of water, except for medications discussed with

the OSF Saint Anthony Medical Center nurse during a phone interview.

If you are diabetic and take Metformin containing medication, you may be asked to stop taking your Metformin medication 48 hours after your test. Your technologist will give you specific instructions regarding your Metformin medication.

**Allergies:**

You will receive contrast as part of the test. Contrast is something given in order for the body part to be seen on an X-ray. If you have any known allergies to iodine or X-ray contrast, please contact your ordering doctor. You may need to take special medications before having this test.

**Test Instructions:**

The test will be explained to you by a registered x-ray technologist. You will be asked to sign a consent form before the test starts. You will be asked to wear a hospital gown for your test.

A registered technologist will help a radiologist (a doctor specializing in reading X-rays) with your test. The test will take about 60 minutes. You will lie on an x-ray table on your stomach or side.

The radiologist or technologist will clean your back with a red colored soap. A Radiologist will numb the area through a very small needle with a numbing medicine called xylocaine. The radiologist will then insert a different needle into your lower back and into the spinal canal. The contrast (iodine/X-ray dye) is then injected. The needle is then removed after the contrast is injected.

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**SAINT ANTHONY  
MEDICAL CENTER**

**Diagnostic Radiology (X-Ray) Department**

815-395-5433

**Test Name:**

Cisternogram

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The radiologist and x-ray technologist will take pictures. You will then be taken over to the CT department to have some CT images taken of your spine. After the CT scan, you will relax in an outpatient hospital room for 4 to 6 hours. You must have someone drive you home.

**After Test Instructions:**

You should keep your head raised up for eight hours after the test. Do not lie flat until bedtime. If you get a headache, call your ordering doctor.

**Test Results:**

Your test will be read by a radiologist who will complete a report that will be sent to your ordering doctor. You can make plans with your ordering doctor on how to receive your test results.