

How and when will I get my test results?

Results from your exam will go to your ordering provider and can also be found in your MyChart when they are available. Additional time may be required if we are comparing these test results to previous findings from other facilities.

Where is this test performed?

Your barium enema will be performed in the Imaging Services Department of Cayuga Medical Center.

Notes

NAME

APPOINTMENT DATE

TIME



Imaging Services Location:

Cayuga Medical Center
101 Dates Drive
Ithaca, New York 14850

(607) 274-4376

www.cayugamed.org



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Barium Enema
LOWER GI SERIES



A Member of  Centralus Health

Welcome to the Department of Imaging Services at Cayuga Medical Center

We are here to assist in the diagnosis of medical conditions and orthopedic injuries using various forms of radiography and imaging technology. We want to make you as comfortable as possible during your exam, while providing timely, thorough, and accurate diagnostic information to your doctor.

The information in this brochure will tell you about the imaging study for which you are scheduled. If you have additional questions, please feel free to call **(607) 274-4376** and ask for the diagnostic supervisor. This person will be able to help you.

About our Imaging Services



Cayuga Medical Center has a commitment to and reputation for staying abreast of changing technology and our imaging equipment is state-of-the-art.

Our range of services is comprehensive and we offer all imaging modalities found in major medical centers. Radiologists are on site at all three of our locations, which also distinguishes the level of service we provide.

Imaging Services is staffed by six board certified radiologists, many of whom are sub-specialists in areas such as neuroradiology, abdominal CT, and interventional procedures. Assisting them are experienced radiologic technologists and sonographers, many of whom have completed advanced training and are certified in specialty modalities.

Barium Enema

(Lower GI Series)

What is the test?

The barium enema is used to examine the colon, also called the large intestine, which runs from the small intestine to the rectum. This is an X-ray procedure that utilizes a contrast medium to detect changes in the lining of the colon.

How do I prepare?

Your colon must be empty at the time of the barium enema. The day before your test, begin a clear diet at noon (*broth, water, tea, soft drinks, bouillon, and gelatin are allowed, but coffee is not allowed*). At 3:00 p.m., the evening before your exam, drink one bottle of magnesium citrate and then take three Dicolax tablets with an eight ounce glass of water. Continue a clear liquid diet until after the test has been completed.

What can I expect during the procedure?

Plan to arrive at the Imaging Services department 15 minutes before your scheduled appointment. The procedure typically takes about an hour. A technologist will help you onto an adjustable X-ray table. A small tube will be carefully inserted into your rectum and secured with a small balloon that will be inflated once in your rectum. Barium will then be injected into the tube to fill your colon. In most cases, air will also be injected through the rectal tube to optimize imaging. You will be asked to lie as still as possible while X-rays are being taken in various positions.

After the test?

When the X-rays are completed, you will have the chance to empty your bowels. Drink lots of fluids and eat what you normally do. Your bowel movements may look chalky for a day or two after the procedure, which is to be expected.