

Patient Suggestions:

- Wear comfortable clothing that will be easy for changing
- Avoid wearing jewelry
- Bring someone with you to drive you home and remain with you the remainder of the day and overnight

Exam Results?

A Radiologist will study the images and send a typed report to your designated health care provider.

Special Instructions:

Your appointment is scheduled for:

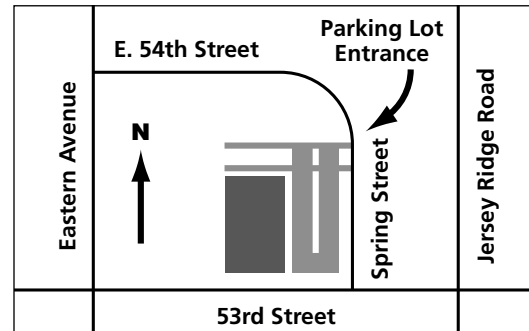
Day: _____

Time: _____

If you cannot keep this appointment, please call (563) 359-3931 to cancel or reschedule.

Driving Directions

1970 E. 53rd St., Davenport



If you are approaching from the East:

Turn right on Spring Street (just west of TPC's building). Our parking lot entrance will then be on your left.

If you are approaching from the West:

Turn left (north) on Eastern Avenue at the stop-light. Proceed two blocks to 54th St. and turn right. Follow 54th St. as it runs into Spring St. Our parking lot entrance will be on your right before you reach the stop sign at 53rd St.

Myelogram



RG
Radiology
Group L.L.C.
Imaging Center

The Power to Know™

What is a Myelogram?

A Myelogram is a special x-ray of the spine and spinal canal. Regular x-rays show the bones of the spine with great clarity. In order to evaluate the spinal canal, discs, and spaces between the bones, a special contrast media (x-ray dye) must be injected into the spine. This injection allows for additional information that is not visible on plain x-rays.

Why do I need a Myelogram?

A Myelogram is performed to diagnose disorders of the spinal canal and cord, such as nerve compression causing pain and weakness.

What will the exam be like?

The Radiologist, a physician who specializes in the study of various imaging tests such as x-ray, ultrasound, mammography, CT, MRI, and Nuclear Medicine, will perform this exam. He or she will be assisted by a Radiologic Technologist and a Radiology Nurse.



Prior to the exam you will be asked questions regarding your past medical history, allergies, and medications as well as be given an opportunity to ask any questions you may have. The technologist or nurse will then assist you onto the x-ray table.

The Radiologist begins the exam by cleaning an area on the back with an antiseptic. He or she then inserts a small needle into the skin and injects a local anesthetic. This stings for a few seconds and then the area becomes numb. Next, the Radiologist places a needle through the numbed skin into the spinal canal. You may feel some pressure as the needle is inserted. On occasion, you may feel a sharp tingling sensation for a second or two as the needle is placed. The Radiologist uses fluoroscopy to guide the placement of the needle and to minimize discomfort with insertion. Once in place, contrast media is injected through the needle. There may be brief periods of discomfort and pressure during the procedure. Once the contrast media is in place the needle is removed and a Band-Aid is placed over the needle site.

At this point, x-ray films are taken. The x-ray table may be tilted into different positions, and you may be asked to roll side-to-side during filming. This helps to distribute the x-ray dye in the spinal canal and allows for images of the spine in different angles. After the myelogram is completed, you will be moved onto a stretcher and taken to the CT suite for further x-rays.

What can I expect after the Myelogram?

After the exam, you can expect to spend a few hours (generally 3 to 4 hours) at the imaging center. You will be encouraged to drink lots of

fluids, unless this is not recommended due to other considerations. You will need to bring someone with you to drive you home.

A word about headaches

Sometimes a headache occurs after a Myelogram. You may be able to reduce the chance of developing a headache by following a few simple instructions:

- Upon returning home, recline, but do not lie flat. Elevate your head about 30-45 degrees for 12 hours after the test.
- Limit walking. Get up only when necessary.
- Drink plenty of fluids before and after the Myelogram, unless your fluid intake is restricted by your physician.
- Arrange to have someone remain with you overnight.

Preparations prior to the exam

You should increase your fluid intake (unless your fluid intake is restricted for other reasons) beginning the day before the Myelogram. On the day of the exam, you should drink clear liquids only – eating no solid food. Additionally, you will be contacted by a Radiology Group staff member prior to your exam to obtain additional information and answer any questions you may have.

How long will the exam take?

Most Myelograms take about 60 minutes, although you will be kept at the facility for an additional 3 to 4 hours after your procedure.