

UnityPoint Health - Finley Hospital Radiology Patient/Family Information
Arthrogram

What is an Arthrogram Procedure?

An arthrogram is the study of a joint space - shoulder, wrist, etc. This exam is done using fluoroscopy with a radiologist. A contrast (dye) or saline (sodium water) is injected into the joint space that is to be evaluated. This exam takes approximately 30 minutes. This procedure can also involve imaging the area with an MRI scanner as well.

Special Note

Before the exam, please tell your doctor if there is a possibility you may be pregnant or are nursing.

Preparation

Patients should inform their physician if they are allergic to x-ray contrast.

Patients should not be on aspirin or blood thinners for 7 days prior to the scheduled exam.

Please bring your medication list with you to your exam.

What Happens During the Test?

After cleaning the affected area (e.g. shoulder, wrist), the area is numbed with a local anesthetic and a needle is placed in the joint space. Contrast or saline is injected and images are taken by the fluoroscopy machine and possibly the MRI scanner following the fluoroscopy portion of the exam.

When Will I Know the Results?

The radiologist will review the images shortly after the exam is completed. A written report will be sent to your doctor. Your doctor will discuss these results with you.

Please allow your physician the time needed to review these results.

Name: _____

Exam Date/Time: _____