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Patient information sheet on intra-articular arthrography

Arthrocentesis with contrast medium to view joints in magnetic resonance imaging (MRI)

Dear patients

Your doctor has referred you to our institution for a special joint examination. In magnetic resonance imaging, we inject contrast medium into the joint being examined to diagnose additional information about the cause of your complaints.

To do this, the radiology specialist will inject contrast medium into the joint capsule. During subsequent imaging, it enables us to better identify the affected joint and capsule structures, cartilage and tendons. This examination can also aid planning for forthcoming surgery.

The examination procedure

The radiology technician will prepare you for the examination and assist the radiology specialist during the examination. A few minutes before the examination in the magnetic resonance imaging apparatus, he or she will inject a small amount of contrast medium into the joint capsule under X-ray lighting, after first cleaning and disinfecting the skin around the injection site. When the contrast medium is injected into the joint capsule, you may experience a brief feeling of tension in the joint; however, this will disappear again as a result of the quick absorption of the contrast medium and its subsequent discharge through the blood stream and kidneys.

If you have any additional questions for the radiology specialist, please ask them before the examination.

By signing this, you confirm that you have read the above information and consent to being examined using contrast medium.

Date: _____

Signature: _____