

CHATTANOOGA ■ I M A G I N G

(423) 553-1234

Your appointment is scheduled for: Date _____ Time _____

Type of exam _____ Ordering physician _____

Diagnosis _____

Copy of report sent to _____

Thank you for choosing Chattanooga Imaging. The following information will assist you in understanding your procedure.

DISCOGRAM

What Is a Discogram?

This procedure is used to evaluate patients with neck, shoulder, or arm pain, and for patients with back, hip, or leg pain. The purpose of this procedure is to determine which disc is causing your pain.

What To Expect

During a discogram, local anesthetic is injected into the skin, and a needle is passed through the skin and into the disc to be studied. The needle must pass nerve roots, and striking nerve roots may cause brief discomfort. Placing a needle into the disc may also be somewhat uncomfortable, but generous local anesthetic is used to diminish this sensation. Contrast material is then injected into each disc under study. This injection may reproduce your pain, and that is an important part of the test. If you experience pain, local anesthetic is injected into the disc to provide relief. X-ray films show the internal structure of the disc.

The risks of this procedure include infection, worsening of your pain, headache, and back or neck pain. Disc infection is unlikely, but requires hospitalization for intravenous antibiotic administration.

The radiologist and technologist will answer any questions you may have before your procedure.

Patient Preparation

No special preparation is required for this procedure.

Thank you for choosing

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