

## Fluoroscopy – Arthrogram Injection

To schedule: (319) 861-7778

Questions about your procedure: (319) 398-6050

### What is Fluoroscopy?

Fluoroscopy is an X-ray study of moving body structures--similar to an X-ray "movie." A continuous X-ray beam is passed through the body part being examined. The beam is transmitted to a computer monitor so that the body part and its motion can be seen in detail.

### What is an Arthrogram Procedure?

An arthrogram is a fluoroscopic procedure of the soft tissue structures of joints. The most common procedures involve the wrist, shoulder, hip and knee.

If your arthrogram is scheduled with an MRI or CT scan, it will take approximately 90 minutes. If scheduled as an arthrogram only it will take approximately 60 minutes.

### Preparation:

No preparation is necessary. Please inform your doctor or the Radiology staff if you are on blood thinners or are allergic to x-ray "dye" (contrast media). Any recent x-ray images taken elsewhere of the joint to be examined should be sent to Mercy Radiology Department before the scheduled exam. You may eat and drink before the exam and take your daily medications.

Patients may continue taking all blood thinners. Warfarin (Coumadin) will require an INR result of less than 3.0 within 3 days of the procedure.

Because your procedure will require signing a consent to complete the exam, Mercy requests you do not take any narcotics, sedatives or antianxiety medications four hours preceding your scheduled exam.

If your arthrogram includes an MRI and you are claustrophobic, you may require narcotics, sedatives or antianxiety medications prior to the MRI scan, please contact your physician and discuss the use of medication that can be taken for this exam. Do **NOT** take any narcotics, sedatives or antianxiety medications until you are in the exam room with radiology staff and are given permission.

### Procedure:

You will be given a local anesthetic, followed by an injection of "dye" (contrast media) into the joint space of your extremity. The radiologist will carefully exercise the area and take several images before the fluoroscopic procedure is completed. The radiology staff will go over post procedure instruction with you following the exam. The radiology staff

will then escort you to the MRI or CT department for the second half of your procedure (if scheduled).

**Arrive 15 minutes early to your appointment**

**PLEASE BRING THE FOLLOWING TO YOUR APPOINTMENT:**

**A PHOTO ID TO VERIFY YOUR IDENTITY**

**A LIST OF CURRENT MEDICATIONS YOU ARE TAKING**

**Mercy Hospital Parking:**

Park in the Mercy Medical Center 10<sup>th</sup> Street Parking Ramp, located at the corner of 10<sup>th</sup> Street and 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE. Proceed to **Ground (G)** level and follow the signs to “Radiology (X-Ray),” also located on **Ground (G)** level.

**Procedure Results:**

A radiologist will review the images shortly after your exam is completed. A written report will be sent to the provider who ordered your exam. Your provider will discuss the results with you. Results will typically be available for your provider within two business days of the exam. Results will also be sent to your MyChart account.