Thank you for choosing Bay Area Medical Center for your Fluoroscopic Arthrography/Injection Procedure.

Your doctor has scheduled you for a Fluoroscopic Arthrography/Injection Procedure at Bay Area Medical Center.

Please arrive at: ____________________________

Your appointment is scheduled for: Date __________________ Time __________________

Please come to the Main entrance (revolving door) of the hospital and go to the Registration Desk to check in.

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What is Fluoroscopy?
Fluoroscopy is an x-ray-based imaging technique used to acquire moving images of internal organs and body structures. In effect, it produces a "movie" in real time by placing the patient or body part between a continuous x-ray beam and an image intensifier, which converts the x-ray energy to light. The image then projects onto a monitor.

Arthrography is a fluoroscopy procedure which visualizes the internal structures of a joint. During arthrography, a dye (contrast material) is injected into the joint. Arthrography can be performed on the shoulder, elbow, wrist, hip, knee, and ankle.

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Why is fluoroscopy performed?
Fluoroscopy enables radiologists to look at and evaluate body systems in real time and can also be used as a guidance tool for invasive procedures. Many fluoroscopy procedures involve the use of contrast agents, such as barium or iodine, which are administered prior to or during the exam. Fluoroscopy can also be used to inject steroids into joints for pain management.

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Preparing for fluoroscopy procedure
Tell your doctor if you are, or suspect you might be pregnant.

If you are scheduled for an arthrogram, tell your doctor if you have any allergies or reactions, especially to iodine or x-ray contrast. If you are allergic, medication will be prescribed for you to take prior to the testing.

If you are under 18 years of age or unable to sign due to other circumstances, a parent or guardian will need to be present to sign the consent for procedure.

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What to expect during fluoroscopy procedure
You will be asked to remove any jewelry and clothing that may interfere with the x-rays. A gown will be provided as needed. A technologist will discuss the procedure with you and take a brief medical history if needed. You should expect to be placed in various positions and to follow the directions of the Radiologist. Fluoroscopy may involve the injection of x-ray contrast into the area to be examined. Movement, positioning and body mass may affect the diagnostic usefulness of x-rays.

Due to potential radiation exposure, only patients are permitted in the x-ray room. Supportive partners, including parents are encouraged to remain outside the x-ray room during filming. If you have small children accompanying you, you are encouraged to make arrangements for their supervision during your fluoroscopy examination.

If you are scheduled for an arthrogram, preliminary x-rays of your joint may be obtained. The radiologist will position you on the fluoroscopy table. The skin overlying your joint will be cleansed and a local anesthetic will be applied. The radiologist will insert a needle into your joint with the help of the fluoroscope. You may feel pressure or some mild discomfort. Contrast material will be injected through the needle into the joint. The needle will then be removed and additional images may be obtained by the radiologist. In some cases, your doctor will request a CT scan or an MRI to follow your arthrogram/injection.

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How long will a fluoroscopy exam take?
A fluoroscopy exam can vary in length from 30 to 45 minutes.
Your fluoroscopy results
The person who views the X-ray images and interprets them is a radiologist.

At Bay Area Medical Center, your radiologist interprets the fluoroscopy exam and a written report will be provided to your doctor or referring healthcare professional. If there is an unexpected or urgent finding, our radiologist will call your doctor with the results.

You may need to make an appointment to discuss the results with your doctor.

X-ray images are digitally recorded and archived at Bay Area Medical Center for seven years.

How will I be billed for this?
Please bring your insurance card and referral/authorization form (if necessary) on the day of your appointment.

All charges, including those from BAMC and from the doctors who perform or reads your x-rays will be submitted to your insurance carrier.

For information on financial counseling or payment questions, call 715-735-8012.

What if I have to cancel my exam?
Contact BAMC at 715-735-4202 to cancel or reschedule an appointment.

VERY IMPORTANT
1. If you are pregnant or think that you may be pregnant, tell your doctor and our staff, as X-rays can affect an unborn baby.

2. Please bring any previous imaging films you have at home or if you have had similar exams at another facility. It is often essential for our doctor to compare with your prior x-rays and scans.

3. At Bay Area Medical Center, appointments are needed for fluoroscopy procedures. When you arrive for your exam, please remember to register at registrations before continuing to the x-ray department.

4. Don’t forget your referral form. You can choose to attend our practice even if you have a referral form by another radiology provider.