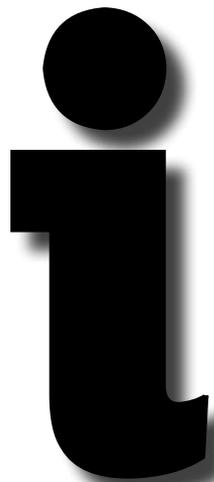


## **Dacrocystogram** (page 1 of 2)



### **Why do I need a Dacrocystogram?**

This is a special X-ray to show the tear ducts. You may have a problem with a watering or weepy eye, which suggests a problem with the drainage of tears from the eye into the nose.

### **What does it involve?**

The radiographer will ask you to remove any metallic objects close to your eyes such as nose studs or glasses. Contact lenses are fine to leave in. But if you wish to remove them if you feel it will be more comfortable then you are welcome to do this.

You will then lie flat on the X-ray table and the radiologist will then place a fine tube into the opening of the tear duct and inject X-ray dye through the tube. A series of X-rays will be taken while the contrast is being injected.

### **Is there any special preparation?**

There is no special preparation needed. You can take any routine medication as usual.

### **How long will it take?**

Usually 15-20 minutes.

### **Are there any risks or side effects?**

The examination is not painful but it can be a bit uncomfortable and irritate the eyes a little. You may find your eyes watering a little bit during the examination. This is completely normal.

This investigation involves exposure to X-rays. X-rays consist of a type of radiation known as ionising radiation. The doses that are used in medical X-rays are very low and the associated risks are minimal. The radiographer is responsible for making sure that your dose is kept as low as possible and that the benefits of having the X-ray outweigh any risk.

There is a small risk of having an allergic reaction to the dye, however this is minimal.

Your vision is unaffected and it is safe to drive afterwards.

### **What if I'm pregnant?**

This examination should not be for women who are pregnant, unless there are exceptional circumstances. Please advise the department if you think you are or might be pregnant.

**Clinical Radiology**  
**01722 429196**

If you need your information in another language or medium (audio, large print, etc) please contact Customer Care on 0800 374 208 or send an email to: [customercare@salisbury.nhs.uk](mailto:customercare@salisbury.nhs.uk)

You are entitled to a copy of any letter we write about you. Please ask if you want one when you come to the hospital.

If you are unhappy with the advice you have been given by your GP, consultant, or another healthcare professional, you may ask for a second (or further) opinion.

The evidence used in the preparation of this leaflet is available on request. Please email: [patient.information@salisbury.nhs.uk](mailto:patient.information@salisbury.nhs.uk) if you would like a reference list.

## How do I get the results?

The radiologist will send a report to the referring consultant who will contact you for a follow up appointment if necessary. If you have any concerns or further questions about this procedure please contact us.