



Defaecography

Information for patients



What is a defaecography test?

This test is used to investigate any problems you may have when trying to open your bowels.

Barium paste (a chalk-like substance) which shows up on X-ray is inserted into your rectum via an examining scope until you have the urge to go to the toilet. You will then sit on a specially designed toilet in front of an X-ray machine and given instructions to open your bowels to pass the barium out of your back passage.

Are there any risks associated with your test?

There are no serious frequently occurring risks associated with your test.

What preparation is required for your test?

-  You may eat and drink as normal and continue with any normal medication.
-  You do not need any special preparation for your test.

Key



Do



Do not



Additional info

What happens during my test?

- 1 Your test will be conducted by your physiologist in a private room with a chaperone present if requested. They will explain your test to you and ask questions about your symptoms.
- 2 You will then be asked to get changed into a gown and lie on the bed ready for your test.
- 3 Your physiologist will insert barium paste (a chalk-like substance which shows up on X-ray) into your rectum using an examining scope until you have the urge to go to the toilet. We will then ask you to sit on a specially designed toilet in front of an X-ray screen. You will then be asked to open your bowels to pass the barium out of your back passage.
- 4 You will be given privacy while you are doing this behind a screen in a darkened room.

 **Your test will take about 10 minutes.**

How will I get my results?

Your results will be sent by secure email to both you and your referring consultant/doctor. We aim to send out all patient results within five working days of completion of your test.



London

22 Upper Wimpole Street
London
W1G 6NB

T: +44 (0) 207 486 7777

E: admin@thefunctionalgutclinic.com

Manchester

73-79 King Street
9th Floor – The Pinnacle
Manchester
M2 4NG

T: +44 (0) 161 302 7777

E: admin@thefunctionalgutclinic.com

Cambridge

63 Bateman Street
Cambridge
Cambridgeshire
CB2 1LR

T: +44 (0) 207 486 7777

E: admin@thefunctionalgutclinic.com

thefunctionalgutclinic.com



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