



Welcome to the OSF Saint Anthony Medical Center Mammography Department.  
You have been scheduled to have a **Ductogram or Galactogram**.

This information will help you understand the test that has been scheduled.  
Thank you for trusting OSF for your medical imaging needs.

A galactogram (ductogram) is an X-ray examination that uses mammography, a low dose X-ray for examining breast nipple(s). A contrast material is injected to help see the ducts that are inside the breast.

The most common reason for having a galactogram is to evaluate a woman who has a bloody or clear discharge from her breast nipple.

**When to come:**

Please arrive 15 minutes before your appointment time to check in.

**Preparation:**

Please do not wear any deodorant, powder or lotions under your arms and breast area on the day of your procedure.

It is important that the nipple not be squeezed for several days prior to the examination. Sometime there is only a small amount of fluid and it is necessary to see where that fluid is coming from to perform the exam.

You will change into a comfortable gown that opens in the front.

**Family:**

Your family or friends may be asked to stay in the waiting area during your test. If adult patients must bring children with them, please bring another adult to watch the children.

**Jewelry:**

You might be asked to remove all jewelry from the neck area.

**Pregnancy testing:**

Pregnancy testing will now be performed on females receiving diagnostics between the ages of 10 and 55 if you have not had your tubes tied or a hysterectomy. Home pregnancy tests are not acceptable. If you know that you are pregnant, please notify your doctor.

**Procedure instruction:**

The nipple is checked for discharge before the examination begins. The area is washed with a cleansing solution. The radiologist – a doctor specializing in mammography - will numb the area with medicine. Once the area is numb, a small needle is guided into the nipple area and a contrast media (iodine) will be injected. You may experience some short, mild discomfort during the injection.

Low-dose X-ray pictures are taken to see this contrast media in your breast area. This helps the radiologist to see if the ducts are blocked.

The procedure will take approximately 30 to 60 minutes.

**Test results:**

A radiologist - a doctor specializing in reading mammograms - will complete a report that will be sent to your ordering doctor. You can make plans with your ordering doctor on how to receive your test results.