



# SAINT ANTHONY MEDICAL CENTER

## Diagnostic Radiology (X-Ray) Department

815-395-5433

**Test Name:**

Arthrogram or MRI Arthrogram

Welcome to the OSF Saint Anthony Medical Center Diagnostic Radiology Department.

You have been scheduled to have an **Arthrogram**, which is sometimes called a joint evaluation. This is a diagnostic test using fluoroscopy (a form of x-ray).

This information will help you understand the test that has been scheduled.

Thank you for trusting OSF for your medical imaging needs.

### **When to come:**

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

### **What to Bring with You:**

You may have had x-rays done at a hospital other than OSF Saint Anthony Medical Center. Please bring copies of the pictures with you the day of the test. You may also request that the doctor's office send the pictures or results to OSF Saint Anthony Medical Center before your test.

### **Preparation:**

None.

### **Jewelry:**

Please remove all jewelry from the area being evaluated before the test.

### **Family:**

Family or friends may be asked to stay in the waiting area during the test

### **Pregnancy Testing:**

Pregnancy testing will now be performed on females receiving diagnostics between the ages of 10 and 55 years old 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.

### **Medication:**

You may take medications as prescribed.

### **Allergies:**

You will receive contrast (iodine/X-ray dye/Gadolinium/MRI dye) as part of the test. Contrast is something given in order for the body part is seen on

an X-ray. If you have any known allergies to iodine, X-ray, or MRI contrast, please contact your ordering doctor. You may need to take special medications before having this test

### **Test Instructions:**

You will be asked wear a hospital gown for the test. A registered x-ray technologist will help the radiologist (a doctor specializing in reading X-rays) with your test. The test will take about 30 to 60 minutes. You will lie on an x-ray table.

A radiologist or x-ray technologist will clean the area with betadine, a red colored soap. If necessary, the area may also be shaved. The radiologist will numb the area through a small needle with a numbing agent called xylocaine. Once the area is numb, the radiologist will then put a different needle into the joint area and inject contrast. Contrast allows your joint to be seen on X-ray.

After the contrast is put into the joint, the needle is removed. The radiologist and the x-ray technologist will then take x-rays of the joint. After the radiologist looks at the pictures, some more pictures may be taken. If this is an MRI arthrogram you will then be taken to MRI for the next part of your test.

### **After Test Instructions:**

You may have tenderness and stiffness in the joint. This should only last about 24 hours.

### **Test Results:**

Your test will be read by a radiologist who will complete a report that will be sent to your ordering doctor. You can make plans with your ordering doctor to receive your test results.