

## NOTES:

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### Call location for hours and directions

#### Locations:

#### Complete Diagnostic Imaging Services

Saint Anne's Hospital  
Ground Floor, 795 Middle Street, Fall River  
508-674-5600 ext. 2300 • Fax 508-235-5636  
Free valet parking

**Saint Anne's Hospital**

795 Middle Street, Fall River, MA 02721  
Main Number and Directions 508-674-5600

## Diagnostic Imaging Services at Saint Anne's Hospital

For our patients and their physicians, Saint Anne's Diagnostic Imaging Services combines the expertise of board-certified radiologists with a comprehensive range of advanced imaging technology. Our fully digitized network of imaging technology assures the highest imaging quality with less time and inconvenience for patients, as well as rapid access to the results for physicians. Images can be viewed and sent via computer to multiple specialists within the hospital, across town to a physician's office or to other hospitals and specialists.

Our dedicated team of physicians and technologists is focused on providing the highest quality imaging and patient comfort. This extends to working with our youngest patients as well as others who require special considerations and appointment scheduling for imaging.

We offer a spectrum of services, including:

- Computerized Tomography (CT) scanning
- Digital X-ray
- Digital Mammography provided in our dedicated Robert F. Stoico/FIRSTFED Center for Breast Care
- Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI)
- Nuclear Medicine with CT capability
- PET/CT imaging
- Ultrasound

### INTERPRETER SERVICES AVAILABLE

#### **Portuguese - Português**

Fala Português? Vamos oferecer-lhe um intérprete gratuito.

#### **Spanish - Español**

¿Habla español? Le proporcionaremos un intérprete sin costo alguno para usted.

## Digital Imaging: A High-Tech Change for Better Care

Digital imaging creates a "filmless" environment that permits rapid viewing of pictures and secure transmission to physicians whether they are in the hospital, their nearby practice or a specialist located miles away. Digital images are high quality, environmentally friendly and easier to access via PACS (Picture Archiving Communication System).

The PACS system is part of a patient's secure and confidential electronic medical record, which provides for improved care through integration of various tests and reports all in one easily-retrievable location.

#### Care Agreement:

You have the right to help plan your care. To help with this plan, you must learn about your health condition and how it may be treated. You can then discuss treatment options with your caregivers. Work with them to decide what care may be used to treat you. You always have the right to refuse treatment.

**SaintAnnesHospital.org**

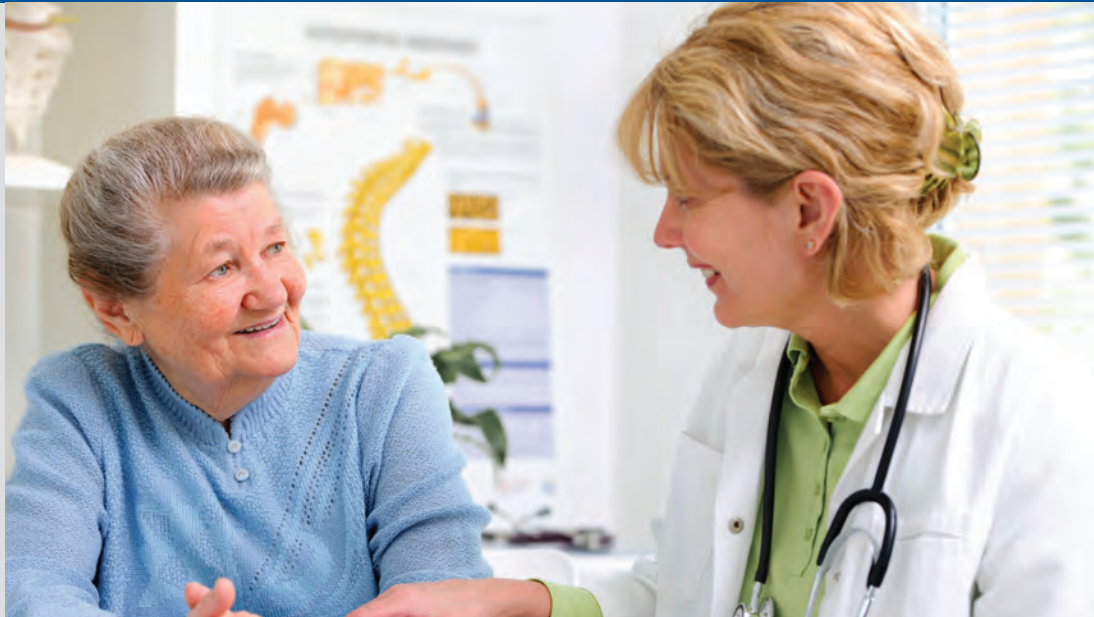
## Saint Anne's Hospital

### DIAGNOSTIC IMAGING SERVICES



## Upper Gastrointestinal And Small Bowel Series

## PATIENT INFORMATION



## Understanding Your Exam

### What is an Upper Gastrointestinal Series?

An upper gastrointestinal series, also called an upper GI series or study, is an X-ray exam that shows pictures of the esophagus (e-sof-uh-gus) and stomach. Your esophagus is the tube connecting your throat to your stomach. The upper GI series also shows pictures of the stomach and the upper part of the small bowel. These X-rays are used to help your physician find out what is causing problems in your esophagus, stomach, or the upper part of your bowel.

### Why do I need an Upper Gastrointestinal Series?

You may need the study because you have had abdominal (belly) or chest pain, weight loss, trouble swallowing, or heartburn.

### Small Bowel Series

This series is done to determine causes for anemia, bleeding, history of Crohn's disease, and irritable bowel syndrome. After the upper gastrointestinal series, you will drink some more barium and the technologist will take additional pictures at timed intervals. Because everyone digests foods at different rates, it is difficult to determine how long your test will take. A small bowel study can last anywhere from 60 minutes to 3 hours or longer.

## What You Should Know:

### The Day Before the Test:

Follow your preparation instructions.

### The Day of the Test:

If you have pre-registered, come directly to the Diagnostic Imaging Services location.

## After You Leave

Continue with your medications according to your physician's directions and following instructions provided to you after the test. If you think your medicines are not helping or if you feel you are having side effects, call your physician. If you are taking antibiotics, take them until they are all gone, even if you feel better. You may be given stool softeners to help your body get rid of the barium. These will be prescribed by your physician.

## After The Test

### Bowel Movement (BM):

Your BMs will be chalky and light-colored for 24 to 72 hours after the test. You may also have some abdominal (belly) cramping until all the barium has been passed.

### Colostomy (ko-loss-tuh-mee):

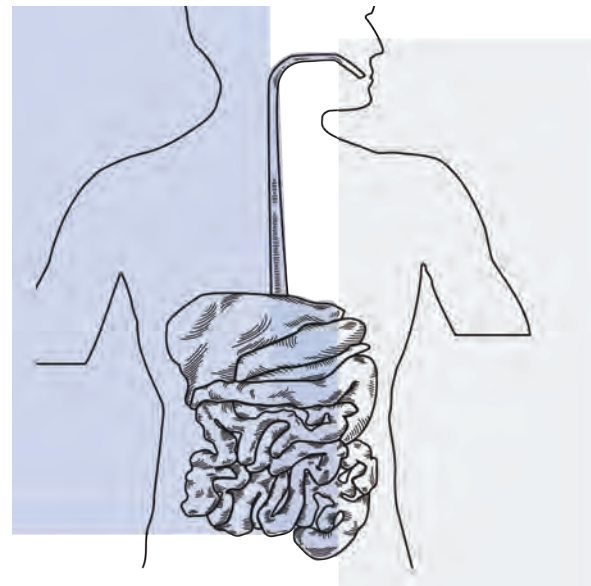
If you have a colostomy, irrigate it after the last X-ray is taken and again in the morning. The last X-ray may be taken as late as 6 hours after you first swallowed barium.

### Fluids:

Drink 2 to 3 glasses (soda-pop can size) of water after the test. This will help flush the barium from your body. If the barium is not removed, it may harden and block the bowel.

### Call your physician if:

- You have not passed the barium in your bowel movement in 2 to 3 days after the exam.
- You have pain in your lower abdomen (belly) or stomach.
- Your bowel movement is pencil-thin or you see a change in how often you have a bowel movement.
- You have questions or concerns about having a bowel obstruction, your treatment or medicine.



## Appointment Scheduling

### 508-235-5339

Monday-Friday 8 am - 6 pm

Your physician's office will schedule your upper GI. Our Scheduling staff are able to assist with all scheduling needs, as well as provide patients and physician practices exam preparation instructions when applicable.

If you are unable to keep your appointment and need to reschedule or if you wish to cancel your appointment, please contact us as soon as possible. A 24-hour notice would be greatly appreciated.

### Pre-Registration By Phone: 508-235-5674

To expedite your visit, please contact our Patient Assistance Center to pre-register for your exam. If we do not hear from you, a member of our staff will attempt to reach you. Please ensure your physician has your most up to date contact information. During the registration process we can assist you with your co-pay, coinsurance, and deductible.

Once you have pre-registered, you can arrive on the scheduled day and time and go directly to the Diagnostic Imaging Services location.

### The Day Of Your Exam

- Use the Valet Parking services where available, Monday through Friday, and reduce the amount of time you spend looking for parking. It's free, and you can pick up your car at the entrance when you are finished with your appointment. No long walks! Hours vary by location.
- For exams scheduled at the hospital: If you have not pre-registered, please go to Patient Registration, located near the main entrance to the hospital, 30 minutes prior to your scheduled exam appointment to be registered for your exam.
- If you are diabetic, inform staff and take your medications as you would normally.
- We want our patients to be as comfortable as possible while having tests performed. However, we ask that you not bring children with you unless you have an adult to watch and care for them while you are having your procedure.
- Pediatric patients must be accompanied by either a parent or legal guardian in order to receive care.