Adult Fluoroscopy Protocols

Therapeutic Gastrografin Enema

Fluoro Time Target Limit- 5.0 minutes

Scheduling and Prep: *There is no prep for this exam.

* These patients are usually scheduled for this exam due to severe constipation.

Supplies:

* Single contrast empty barium enema bag with white inflation square
  For inflating the balloon.

  • Several bottles of Gastrografin- (usually about 4-6 120ml bottles)
  • Lubrication jelly
  • Anatomical side marker

Procedure:

* Take a scout KUB-label it ‘SCOUT’ and use right or left marker.

  • Prepare enema bag with a mixture of 1 to 1 Gastrografin and warm water
  • Flush the Gastrografin through the tubing to remove the air. Clamp tubing.
  • With the patient in the SIMS position, insert the lubricated enema tip into the rectum and gently inflate the balloon.
  • With patient supine, unclamp the tubing to allow the contrast to flow into the colon until it reaches the cecum. You may need to have the patient roll from side to side to disperse the contrast.
  • Watch periodically with Fluoro as the contrast fills the colon-looking for pathology and possible leakage around the balloon.
  • Once the colon is full, clamp the tubing to stop the flow of contrast and to prevent any backflow into the bag.
  • The Gastrografin will help to encourage cleansing of the colon.

Spot Images:

1. AP Sigmoid  2. RPO Sigmoid  3. LPO Sigmoid  4. Left Lateral Rectum
5. Unsuperimposed Splenic Flexure  6. Unsuperimposed Hepatic Flexure
7. Cecum
8. With gentle compression, visualize all parts of the colon and take spot images of any pathology

*Lower the bag and unclamp the tubing to allow contents to drain back into the bag.
*Once the colon stops draining, deflate the balloon and remove the enema tip.
*Escort the patient to the restroom to evacuate any remaining contents.
*Dispose of the clamped enema bag.
9. Post Evacuation KUB. This image should demonstrate how much stool was evacuated and how effective the procedure was to remove bowel contents.

*These are the minimum images needed to demonstrate the proper anatomy for this exam. When deemed necessary, more images may be taken to demonstrate pathology or from Radiologist’s request.
*Instruct the patient to drink plenty of fluids and stay near a restroom for the rest of the day.
*Care should be taken to reduce exposure to your patient and the imaging staff.

Reviewed February 22, 2023