

Contrast examination of the arteries

You have received a request for an angiography.

An angiography refers to the imaging of blood vessels with contrast medium.

The procedure generally takes 1–3 hours.

Please see the arrival instructions or appointment letter for contact information, if you have any questions about the examination.

Before the examination

If you are hypersensitive to local anaesthetics or iodine-bearing contrast medium, or you are or suspect you might be pregnant, please inform of this to the referring doctor or radiographer before the procedure.

- You must abstain from eating, drinking and smoking for at least 4 hours before the examination.
- Please shower on the morning of the examination.

You may take your prescribed medication as usual.

If you are currently taking any blood thinning medication, or you take insulin for diabetes, the unit responsible for your care will give you separate instructions about your medication.

During the examination

You will be provided with hospital clothing and premedication prior to the examination when necessary.

In addition, an intravenous line will be inserted into your hand.

During the examination you will lie on your back on the examination table.

The radiology staff will inform you of the progress of the examination.

In most cases, the study takes place under local anaesthesia via the femoral artery.

A catheter will be inserted into an artery and after the contrast medium is injected the x-rays are taken.

The contrast medium may cause a feeling of heat.

The examination may be related to a therapeutic measure.

After the examination

Once the examination is done, the hole made in the blood vessel will be closed. If necessary, the puncture location will be supported with a compression bag.

After the examination you will be confined to bed for 2–6 hours.

It is also advisable to continue resting until the following morning. You may visit the bathroom.

Exertion should be avoided for four days.
Sauna and bathing should be avoided for a week.

However, you may take a shower on the following day after the procedure.
The radiology department will provide you with instructions regarding postoperative care.

After the examination, you may eat and drink normally according to your condition.

If you come to the examination from inpatient ward, you are normally discharged on the following day after the examination.

Doctor in charge of your care will inform you of the results of the examination.

Other things to note

Please take your Kela-card or identification with you.

You will not be charged for the examination separately.

Cancel the appointment if you cannot come.
If you do not cancel, you will be charged a fine.