

X-ray examination of the teeth and jaws

An x-ray examination of the teeth and jaws, or panoramic x-ray, provides information on the teeth and jawbones, and any changes there may be.

If needed, an x-ray image of the skull may be taken, which is called a cephalometric x-ray. Your doctor may have requested this examination to help plan orthodontic treatment or an operation, for example.

Sometimes a cone beam CT scan (CBCT) of the head may be performed as well.

During the scan, the device takes several images from different directions at the same time.

You do not need to book an appointment for a panoramic x-ray. These examinations need special devices that are not available in every x-ray unit. The opening hours of our X-ray units are available online at www.hus.fi/en/x-ray-units.

You need an appointment for the cone beam examinations. The unit that sent you to the examination will book the appointment for you.

Please reserve approximately an hour for your visit. The examination usually takes approximately 15 minutes.

Patient who needs urgent examinations may be examined before you.

Before the examination

- You may eat and drink as usual before the examination.
- Please remove any jewellery from the head and neck area before the scans, because they cause glitches in the images. It is best to leave the jewellery at home.

During the examination

All items and clothes on the head area must be taken off before the scan. This includes glasses, dentures, removable dental braces, and hearing aids, for example.

A radiographer will help you into the correct position in the device. You will be standing up or sitting down during the scan.

During the scan, the device will rotate around your head. This takes about 20 seconds, and you must stay still during this time.

For the skull x-rays, the radiographer will take 1 or 2 images, depending on the doctor's request. The device does not move during this scan.

After the examination

You will receive the results of the examination from the doctor who treats you.

If you do not know how to find out the results, please contact the outpatient clinic or ward that referred you to this examination.

Other things to note

Please take your Kela-card or identification with you.

You will not be charged for the examination separately.

Cone beam CT scan: Cancel the appointment if you cannot come. If you do not cancel, you will be charged a fine.

Further information

For further information in Finnish please visit: www.tutkimukseen.fi >> Kuvantamistutkimuksia >> [Röntgentutkimukset](#).