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Contrast Mammography

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Contrast Mammography

Contrast Mammography is a diagnostic x-ray exam of breast tissue that can help detect or rule out problems with your breasts. Contrast mammography uses an iodine based x-ray contrast material (dye) given through an IV, before a mammogram, making abnormal areas more clearly seen.

Before Your Test

- On the morning of your test, wash your breasts and underarms, but do not use deodorant, powder, or perfume.
- Wear a top that you can remove easily.
- You may need to have a blood test to check kidney function.

Let the Technologist Know If You:

- Have breast implants.
- Are or may be pregnant or are breastfeeding.
- Have an allergy to iodine based x-ray contrast material.
- Have had other IV contrast studies in the past 72 hours.
- Have decreased kidney function.

During Your Test

- You will need to undress from the waist up.
- An IV will be started to receive the x-ray contrast material.
- As the contrast is given, you may feel warm and may notice the taste of metal in your mouth; this is normal.
- Your breast will be compressed for each image like a standard mammogram. This improves the image detail.
- This exam will include at least 2 separate views of each breast.

After Your Test

- More x-rays, or a breast ultrasound are sometimes needed.
- You will be notified of your test results.
- Have follow-up mammograms as your doctor recommends.
- Let your doctor know about any changes you notice in your breasts.

