

Defecogram - First Hill Campus only

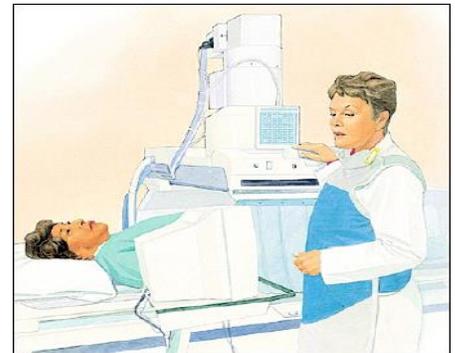
A **defecogram** is a video x-ray exam that can detect problems with your pelvic floor and rectum with minimal risk and discomfort to you. The defecogram is useful for identifying rectal intussusception, rectocele, rectal prolapse and can be very important in helping to determine the cause of a patient's symptom of fecal incontinence or difficult defecation. The information provided by this test can be critical in helping to understand and treat the cause of your condition.

What You Can Expect

You will be asked to drink oral contrast, a liquid that will help the intestines show up more clearly on x-ray film. Then the rectum will be filled with a thick, x-ray visible paste to simulate a loose stool. X-ray pictures will be taken of the pelvis as you are asked to squeeze your pelvic muscles and eliminate the paste on a special commode. This test is not painful.

Before Your Test

- Use 2 Fleet Enemas 2 hours prior to the exam
- Women only: Arrive at department one hour early to drink 400cc of thin barium.



Let the technologist know about the following:

- Symptoms you're having
- Allergies
- Any previous surgery
- Medications you take
- If you're pregnant or think you may be

During Your Test

- A tube is inserted into your rectum.
- Your rectum is filled with barium (a liquid that improves the X-ray images).
- You will be asked to move into different positions and hold your breath while x-rays are taken.
- Pressure may be applied to your belly to get the best images.
- The last X-ray will be taken after you go to the bathroom.

After Your Test

- Drink plenty of water to relieve constipation you may have after the test.
- Your stool may appear white or light for a day or two.