



## Gastrointestinal Tract (GI) Series 腸胃道鋇劑攝影(英文)

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### What is a GI series?

A GI series (barium enema) is a set of X-rays taken to examine the esophagus, stomach, small intestine, and colon. X-rays are taken after the patient has swallowed a barium suspension (contrast medium) or injected barium through the anus.

### What is the purpose of test?

- Confirm diagnosis of colon cancer, gastric cancer, ulcer, bowel inflammatory disease, and etc.
- Detects polyps and structural changes in the GI tract.
- Dyspepsia.
- Body weight loss.
- Change in bowel habit
- GI tract hemorrhage

### How does the patient prepare?

- Lower GI series:
  - 3 days prior to the examination: low residue diet.
  - On the day prior to examination: fluid only and take Docolax at 8 a.m. and 6p.m. for cleansing enemas .
  - Nil orally for 4 hours prior to the examination.
- Upper GI and small intestine series:
  - Nil orally for 4 hours prior to the examination.
  - No smoking on the day
  - Generally, oral medications may be taken.

### What are the risks?

- There is low radiation exposure. Pregnant women and children are more sensitive to the risks of X ray.
- A more serious risk is a perforated GI tract, which is very rare.
- Aspiration for upper GI series.

### How is the aftercare?

The patient should be warned that his bowel motion will be white for a few days after the examination, and keep his bowels open with laxatives to avoid impaction, which can be painful.

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若有任何疑問，請不吝與我們聯絡  
電話：(04) 22052121 分機 3331  
HE-T2010-E