

After your barium enema

Following your barium enema, you may experience the following:

- abdominal distension and wind
- colicky abdominal pain
- constipation.

This is quite normal but can be minimised by:

- returning to eating and drinking normally as soon as possible
- increasing your fluid intake for two to three days in the form of extra tea, coffee, water, or fruit juice
- making sure your diet contains extra fibre – brown bread, fruit, and vegetables - for the next few days.

Results of your examination

The results of your examination will be sent to the doctor who referred you. They should receive your results within seven to ten days of this examination.

Occasionally, following the injection (of Buscopan) given to relax the bowel during a barium enema, patients develop a red or painful eye. This can happen in patients who have glaucoma, in which case the injection would not normally be given. However, it could arise in patients who have undiagnosed glaucoma. If you develop a red or painful eye following your examination, consult your local hospital A&E department.

If you need further advice please contact Medical Imaging on either 01909 502136 (Bassetlaw Hospital) or 01302 553116 (Doncaster Royal Infirmary).