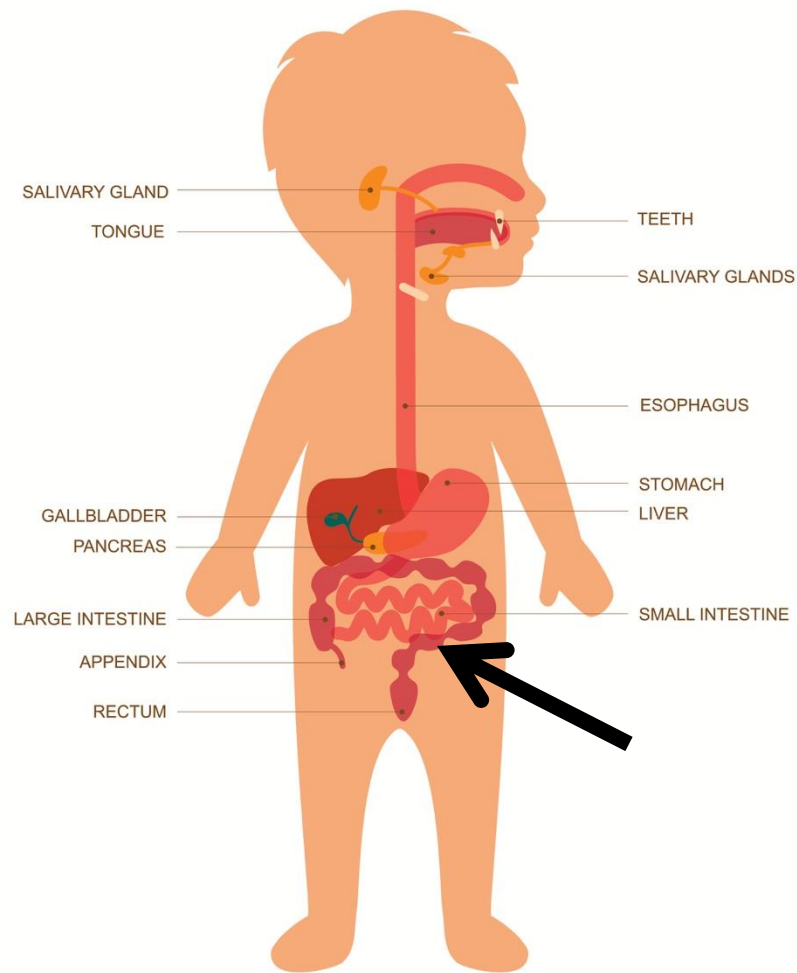


# Getting a Barium Enema

## Photo Preparation Book



A Barium Enema or “BE” means that you are here to get pictures of the inside of your belly. The doctors need to see pictures of something called your large intestine. This is where your poop is on the inside of your body.



This is the Radiology Waiting Room. There are a lot of fun things to do in this room while you wait!

The people in this room are waiting for pictures called X-rays, MRI's, Ultrasounds, CT scans, or BE's (just like you!)



Next, you will go to one of the registration desks. The patient services representative will let the technologists know that you are here.



You will also get a special bracelet that tells everyone who you are. Then you will go back to the waiting room.





When it is time for your Barium Enema, the technologist will call you into the room. The technologist is the person who is going to take your pictures.



The technologist will give you special hospital pajamas to wear while you get your picture taken.



The technologist will give the grown-ups you brought with you a special outfit to wear too.





You will be able to see the pictures of your Large Intestine on this TV screen.



For the first part of the test, the technologist will take an x-ray picture of your belly. The camera will never touch you!

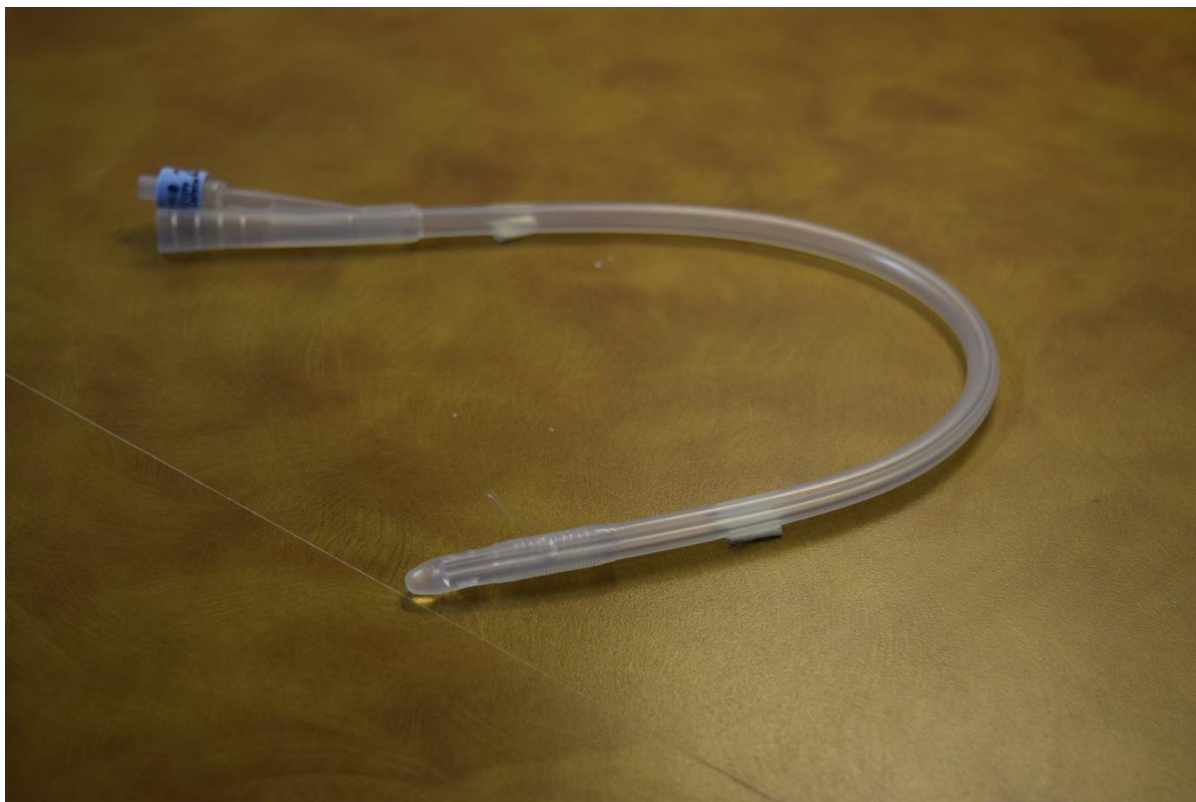


Your x-ray will look like this. Can you tell where the Large Intestine is in this picture? No? That's because it is empty.



**Contrast** is the special liquid that fills up your Large Intestine so the doctor can see it better. There are two different types of contrast – Ask the Technologist which type they will use for you!





The contrast will go through a soft bendy tube to fill up your large intestine. The tube goes into the hole you poop out of. The tip of the tube is very soft, and doesn't go in very far.



Can you tell which  
picture has contrast?

# Your job is to stay relaxed!



Play a game, watch a movie  
or listen to music!

Take big deep breaths



Squeeze a stress ball or a  
grown-ups hand!





When the soft bendy tube is in, your job is to squeeze your butt cheeks really tight to help hold the tube in until the test is over. The technologist will put some soft tape on your butt cheeks to help you squeeze them tight!





The doctor will come in and move the other camera over top of you like a tent.

The contrast will start filling up your Large Intestine and your belly will start to feel very full (like you have to poop!)

**Remember:** Keep taking those deep breaths!



Once your Large Intestine is full, the doctor will need to take some sideways pictures. Listen for the technologist to tell you to roll on your side and then to roll to your other side and lie back on your back.



When the doctor is done taking pictures, you will roll back on your side so the technologist can take off the tape and take out the soft bendy tube.

You have to poop out all the contrast that filled your large intestine and then we need to take another picture once it's empty again.

**Remember:** the contrast was either white or clear so that is the color it will be when you poop!



Just like at the beginning, the technologist needs one more x-ray picture of your belly. Look for the flashlight and listen for the “click” and then you will be all done!

**Remember:** The camera will never touch you!



# Additional Support

If your child has any special needs or health issues you feel the doctor needs to know about, please call the Department of Pediatric Radiology at Children's to speak with a technologist or Child Life Specialist before the test. (412) 692-5512.

It is important to notify us in advance about any special needs.

Preparing your child beforehand, as well as comforting your child during the test, will help your child have a more positive experience.

Sometimes it is difficult to know how to explain tests to children. These preparation books have been created to help you and your child feel as prepared as possible.

If you feel that your child will have difficulty during the test or needs a more developmentally appropriate explanation prior to their visit, please call the Department of Pediatric Radiology's Child Life Specialist (412) 692- 9532.