

medications that have been stopped for the myelogram.

What if I have a contrast allergy?

ANY contrast allergy, even if not severe, is pretreated with prescription medicine. The physician ordering the myelogram will prescribe this for you.

What are the risks of the procedure?

The most common risk is a headache, which can be prevented and treated by rest and fluids. It is most likely to occur during the first 24 hours, but may occur up to 3 days after the procedure. Other risks are less common, and will be discussed during the review of your consent form.

What happens when the test is performed?

You will be on an x-ray table on your stomach for a study of the lower spine, or on your side for a study of the upper spine. X-ray guidance will be used to locate the site to access the spinal canal. Your skin will be numb from a local anesthetic, then the dye will be injected. After this, a series of x-rays will be taken. This takes about one hour. You will then be monitored by the nursing staff, and will have a CT scan of the spine.