



WHAT IS AN OPG?

An OPG is a rotational panoramic dental x-ray that allows the dentist to view the upper and lower jaws on one film in a 2-dimensional representation.

WHAT IS LATERAL CEPHALOMETRY?

Lateral Cephalometry is an x-ray of the side of the face and jaw that allows the doctor to view the relationship between your teeth and the bones of your face. From the image, various measurements can be made relating to the nature of your bite.

WHO PERFORMS MY EXAMINATION?

The person who operates the equipment is a Radiographer. They are university trained and accredited with the Australian Institute of Radiography (AIR). The person that views and interprets the images is a doctor specialising in Radiology, known as a Radiologist.

WHAT SHOULD I EXPECT WHEN I HAVE MY OPG?

During an OPG examination you will be asked to bite down on a piece of plastic that is attached to the OPG machine. During this time the arm of the machine will rotate around your head to capture the image on film or sensor.

WHAT SHOULD I EXPECT WHEN I HAVE MY LATERAL CEPHALOMETRY?

The Radiographer will place guides that will sit in your ears. You will be asked to remain still for the duration of this examination, as movement will blur the images.

ARE THERE ANY RISKS OR SIDE EFFECTS FOR OPG AND/OR LATERAL CEPHALOMETRY?

Having an OPG and/or Lateral Cephalometry will expose your body to a very low level of radiation. No radiation remains after the test. Your doctor has sent you for this test knowing that the information provided by the scan is more beneficial than the very low risk associated with it. The skill of the operator and the design of the machine ensure you receive the lowest radiation dose possible.

If you are pregnant, or if it is possible that you may be pregnant please advise the staff before the examination, as x-ray examinations are usually not performed during pregnancy unless it is an absolute medical necessity to do so.

Things to bring along to your appointment:

- Previous films for area of clinical interest.
- Referral (this is a legal requirement)
- Medicare card or DVA (Veterans' Affairs) card.
- Workcover claim number (if you have a current claim or if you intend lodging a claim with Workcover, please advise our reception staff).

FEES

Exact Radiology Clinics bulk bill most Medicare eligible services.