## **Patient Information**

# **OPG - DENTAL X-RAY**



### What is an OPG?

A dental x-ray or OPG (orthopantomogram), is a special type of x-ray that looks at the lower face and displays both the upper and lower teeth in a flat line or panoramic view.

It demonstrates the number, position and growth of all your teeth including those that have not yet surfaced.

Bookings are not essential for OPG scans. The Medical Imaging Department accepts all radiology provider referrals.

#### How long will the examination take?

The x-rays will usually take 5-10 minutes, depending on how many different views / images your doctor has requested.

You may be asked to remove any jewellery or metallic items from your body as they may interfere with the x-ray image.

#### Are there any risks?

When having an x-ray you will receive a small dose of x-ray radiation. The potential benefits of diagnosing a medical condition are believed to be greater than the risks from receiving a small dose of x-ray radiation.

Before your x-ray please let the Radiographer know if you are, or think you may be pregnant.

#### What happens after the examination?

After the examination has been completed a radiologist will review the images taken and produce a report.

This report and a copy of the images taken will then be forwarded to the doctor who referred you for the examination.

#### Who can I contact if I am not sure about something?

If you have any questions at all, please feel free to contact Medical Imaging reception on (03) 5352 9325 during business hours (8.30am to 5.00pm Monday to Friday). They will assist with your questions, or direct you to the most appropriate staff member to assist you.











