

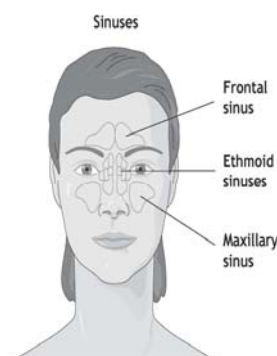


## CHRONIC SINUSITIS

This brochure tells you about Chronic Sinusitis and how it is diagnosed, including what Imaging tests you may need to have.

### What is Sinusitis?

Sinusitis is inflammation in your sinuses. There are two sinuses on your forehead (frontal sinuses), two on the sides of the bridge of your nose (ethmoid sinuses), and two behind the cheekbones (maxillary sinuses). The sinuses behind your cheekbones are the ones that are most often affected.



Sinusitis may also be called rhino sinusitis. Rhino sinusitis is inflammation in your nose (rhinitis) and your sinuses (sinusitis).

Acute sinusitis usually develops after you have had a cold or flu. It may develop very quickly and usually lasts a week or more. Chronic sinusitis usually develops after Acute sinusitis and lasts more than 12 weeks. If you have chronic sinusitis, you may have other problems which are causing your sinusitis.

Symptoms of Chronic Sinusitis are:

- A blocked nose (most common)
- A runny nose (usually green/yellow in colour)
- Pain or pressure in your forehead, cheeks, nose and between your eyes
- Headache
- Ache in teeth
- Lost sense of smell
- Cough
- Bad breath
- Tiredness
- Snoring

## Diagnosis:

X-ray examinations are not normally required for diagnosis but your doctor may request a CT scan if you are not improving on antibiotic treatment, or if you keep getting sinusitis. Your doctor may also refer you to an ENT (Ear, nose and throat) specialist.

## Results:

A radiology doctor will look at the CT scan and write a report for your doctor.

An MRI scan may occasionally be necessary depending on the result of the CT scan.

## Further Information

For more detailed information, please see [Inside Radiology](#), a resource produced especially for consumers by the [Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Radiologists](#).

If you would like to look at other relevant brochures, please see

- [CT Scan](#)
- [MRI Scan](#)
- [Radiation risks of x-rays and scans](#)

Or log into the Diagnostic Imaging Pathways website - [www.imagingpathways.health.wa.gov.au/includes/consumer.html](http://www.imagingpathways.health.wa.gov.au/includes/consumer.html)

or

If you have questions or require any further information please contact your doctor.

## Consumer Participation

This information has been reviewed by representatives from the following groups:

- Aboriginal people
- People with disabilities
- Seniors
- CALD (Culturally and Linguistically Diverse)
- The Health Consumers' Council.

## Feedback

The Division of Imaging Services, Royal Perth Hospital is committed to providing a friendly and professional service. If you would like to provide feedback on this information sheet, please send to:

Quality Coordinator  
Imaging Services  
Royal Perth Hospital  
GPO Box X2213  
Perth WA 6000

## References

Chronic Sinusitis, [www.patient.co.uk](http://www.patient.co.uk)

### Website

For more information go to [www.imagingpathways.health.wa.gov.au](http://www.imagingpathways.health.wa.gov.au)

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