



NON-TRAUMATIC NECK PAIN

This brochure tells you about Non-Traumatic Neck Pain and how it is diagnosed, including what Imaging tests you may need to have.

What is Non-Traumatic Neck Pain?

Non-traumatic neck pain is pain in the neck which has been caused by aging or diseases such as arthritis. It has not been caused by injuries or trauma such as fractures.

Diagnosis

Your doctor will discuss the signs and symptoms of your neck pain. Neck pain will usually go away within a few days and you would not normally need an x-ray for diagnosis. Your doctor may request an imaging test if he/she:

- thinks something more serious may be causing your neck pain
- your pain does not get better with simple treatment measures
- you have other symptoms, such as tingling, numbness or weakness in your limbs

Depending on your symptoms, your doctor may request an x-ray, MRI, CT scan, or a myelogram. This will help the doctor to decide what is causing your neck pain and what type of treatment you need.

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

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

Or log into the Diagnostic Imaging Pathways website - www.imagingpathways.health.wa.gov.au/includes/consumer.html

Or

If you have questions or require any further information please contact your doctor or speak to the staff where you are going to have your procedure.

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

Website

For more information go to www.imagingpathways.health.wa.gov.au

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