

# Myelography

Myelography is a type of radiographic examination that uses a contrast medium to detect pathology of the spinal cord, including the location of a spinal cord injury, cysts, and tumors. Historically the procedure involved the injection of a radiocontrast agent into the cervical or lumbar spine, followed by several X-ray projections. Today, myelography has largely been replaced by the use of MRI scans, although the technique is still sometimes used under certain circumstances – though now usually in conjunction with CT rather than X-ray projections.

Lutters et al. commemorated the centenary of myelography, a neuroradiological [procedure](#) that, despite certain disadvantages, significantly contributed to the diagnosis and localization of [spinal cord lesions](#) during the 20th century. From the start, the use of myelography was characterized by different views regarding the potential dangers associated with the prolonged exposure of a “foreign body” to the [central nervous system](#). Such differences in attitude resulted in divergent myelography practices; its precise indications, technical performance, and adopted contrast material remaining subject to variability until the procedure were eventually replaced by [MRI](#) at the close of the 20th century <sup>1)</sup>.

Myelography is a type of [radiography](#) that uses a contrast medium to detect pathology of the spinal cord, including the location of a spinal cord injury, cysts, and tumors. The procedure often involves injection of contrast medium into the cervical or lumbar spine, followed by several X-ray projections. A myelogram may help to find the cause of pain not found by an MRI or CT.

Myelography has been largely replaced by the use of CT and MRI scans.

see [CT myelography](#).

see [MR myelography](#)

<sup>1)</sup>

Lutters B, Groen RJM, Koehler PJ. Myelography and the 20th Century Localization of Spinal Cord Lesions [published online ahead of print, 2020 Sep 1]. Eur Neurol. 2020;1-6. doi:10.1159/000509863

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