

Where can I find out more about medical photography?

Our professional body is the Institute of Medical Illustrators and you can find them on the Internet at www.imi.org.uk

Registered Address:

Institute of Medical Illustrators,
12 Coldbath Square, London EC1R 5HL

Telephone: 0207 837 2846

Registered No: 933565

Contact or visit us at:

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Cambridge
CB2 0QQ

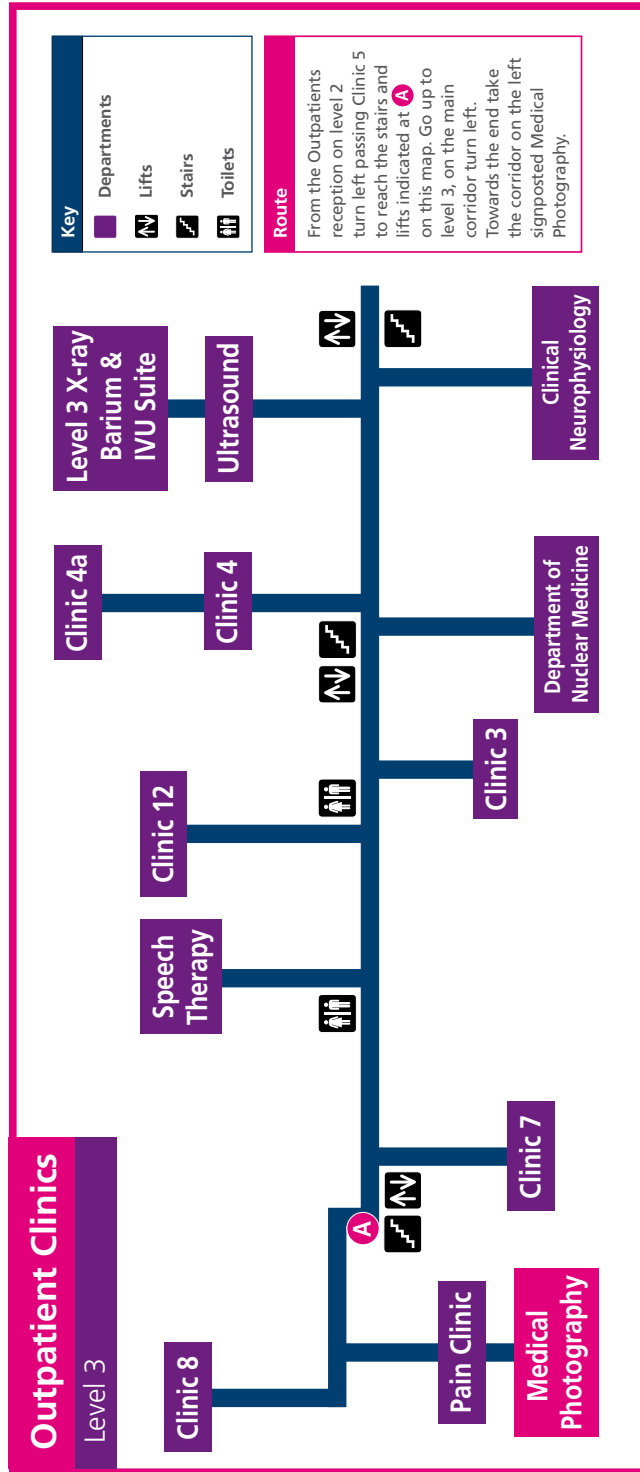
Tel 01223 216349

Internal extension 2349

email enquiries@media-studio.co.uk

www.medgraphics.cam.ac.uk

MS/PTC/0310



Factsheet

Medical Photography

information for patients



media studio

photography • design & print • room bookings • audio visual

What is Medical Photography?

Cambridge University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust is a teaching hospital with a reputation as a world class research centre. The Medical Photography Department specialises in photographing patients to produce accurate photographs that show medical conditions clearly. All of our photographers are nationally registered and are fully qualified medical photographers.

Where is the Medical Photography Studio?

The Medical Photography Studio is located on Level 3 in the Outpatients Department. We are situated at the back of Clinic 7, next to the Pain Clinic and the Cleft Lip and Palate department (please see back of leaflet for map).

Why have we asked to take a photograph of you?

Photographs are a good way of showing a medical condition and making a permanent record for your clinical notes, whether before, during or after treatment. They enable clinical staff to make assessments of your treatment progress, by comparing your condition with your previous photographs. Many photographs taken by Medical Photography are also used for teaching doctors, nurses and other medical professionals. Sometimes, with your permission, images can be published in a medical book or journal.

Who wants the photographs?

The photographs are taken at your consultant's request. The consultant will explain to you the reason for the request and ask you to sign a consent form to show that you agree to the photographs being taken and used.

More about consent

Addenbrooke's Hospital has a strict policy on clinical photography, to ensure that we have your agreement before any photographs are taken of you and that they are only used in ways that you agree to.

There are three levels of consent:

Record only means that the photographs will be kept in your clinical records and may only be used by clinical staff involved with your treatment or clinical assessment.

Teaching means that your photographs may be used for teaching trainee doctors and other medical staff.

Publication consent – your doctor might also ask you whether we can use the photographs for another 'specified purpose'. This might, for example, be publication in a book or medical journal. In this case you should know the exact publication in which your picture(s) will be used. Often your doctor will not know until some time later that a photograph is needed for a publication, so in these cases he or she will contact you to ask for your permission.

What if I change my mind later?

If you want to change the consent you have given at any time, please contact the Medical Photography Department and your records will be amended according to your wishes. You might also wish to discuss the use of your photographs with your consultant.

Who owns the photographs?

Cambridge University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust – Addenbrooke's and the Rosie Hospitals – owns the copyright to all the photographs taken by Medical Photography and this copyright is stated on every photograph. It is illegal for any unauthorised person to make copies of your photographs.

What will the photographer ask me to do?

In the studio

The photographer will ask for your consent form and double check that you have signed it. You will then be invited into the studio where the photographer will explain what photographs he/she will be taking of you. Depending on which parts of your body we are photographing, you may be asked to remove jewellery or make-up and some clothing.

The photographer will explain which aspects of your condition we want to photograph and show you how you will need to sit or stand in order to help produce anatomically correct medical records. We use flash lighting, which can be quite bright as the photograph is taken, so be careful not to look directly at the lights.

We sometimes use mirrors and retractors to see into the mouth and might need to use hair bands of hair grips to keep the hair away from your face.

If you feel uncomfortable at any point, please tell the photographer.

Once the photographs have been taken, you are then free to go and the images will be uploaded for your consultant to view immediately.

On the ward

If you are unable to come to the studio, a photographer will come to visit you on the ward at an agreed time. The photographer will check that you have signed the consent form and, as in the studio, you may be asked to remove jewellery and clothing.

Where do the photographs go?

Photographs taken by Medical Photography are uploaded to the Clinical Image Library on the hospital's secure intranet. Access to the system requires the user to have a username and password and is restricted to medical staff that have a legitimate reason to look at your notes.

Can I get copies of the photographs taken of me?

Copies of your photographs can be purchased through the Access to Records Department. Please call 01223 216327 or 216755 and request an 'Application for Access to Health Records Form'.

Thank you for your time in attending for photography and please feel free to contact the department if you have any concerns, or if you require any further information.