

Information for patients having a videofluoroscopy

Radiology

Information for patients and carers

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Caring for you

What is a videofluoroscopy?

A video fluoroscopy is an X-ray test that checks your swallowing to see how food and drink pass through your throat into your oesophagus (the tube that takes food down to your stomach).

The test lets us see if there is a risk of any food or drink going down the wrong way into your lungs. It also gives an assessment of your swallow function. Usually, you will already have seen a speech and language therapist, who will have recommended the procedure. You do not need to do anything specific to prepare.

If you are pregnant, or think you might be, please contact us, as you are advised not to have this test.

What happens when I have my videofluoroscopy?

You will be given different types of food and / or drink to swallow. The food and drink will contain a small amount of barium (a white liquid that coats the lining of the stomach so it can be seen on the X-rays), which may taste slightly chalky.

If your swallowing is impaired, small amounts of the food / fluid may enter your lungs. We make every effort to reduce this risk.

Results

Sometimes the results will be explained to you straight after the test. If not, you will receive a follow-up appointment with the speech and language therapist.

Further information

You can bring a friend or relative with you, but seating is limited. Escorts are not usually allowed into the room during procedures.

If you need information in other languages, large print, audio or Braille or have any other questions, please contact us on **01925 665012**.