

Videofluoroscopic Swallow Study

This may be done if there are concerns with your swallowing skills

About the Test:

- ^ It is an x-ray of your swallow
- ^ Completed in the imaging department at the hospital
- ^ Completed by a speech therapist and radiologist
- ^ The x-ray takes about 10 minutes once set up
- ^ Allow 30-45 minutes for transportation and setup before testing

Concerns about the Test:

- ^ No fasting needed
- ^ No scopes/tubes will be put in your nose or throat
- ^ All food and drink given will contain barium in order to be seen on the x-ray
- ^ Radiation will be used, and the amount is very small

During the Test:

- ^ Your ability to swallow food and drink will be filmed and recorded to our PACS system so it can be reviewed after the test by the therapist and radiologist
- ^ The x-ray shows the food or drink as it enters your mouth, how it moves through your throat and enters the esophagus
- ^ This allows us to see the type of swallowing problem as it occurs
- ^ The speech therapist may have you swallow regular and thickened liquids, pureed food, crackers, mixed fruit, and a barium tablet
- ^ The speech therapist may have you try different strategies to help with swallowing (examples: head turns, chin tuck, and second swallow)

After the Test:

- ^ The results can be viewed and discussed right away after the test is completed
- ^ The speech therapist will discuss with you the results and may recommend diet changes, different swallow positions, swallowing strategies, or use of an exercise program for your swallow

Provided to you by your Speech Therapist ~ Questions? Call 715-424-8500