

# Contrast Swallow

An information guide



# **Contrast Swallow**

## **What is a contrast swallow?**

This is an examination of your oesophagus (the food pipe between your mouth and stomach).

## **Who performs your investigation?**

A radiologist or specialist radiographer will perform your investigation assisted by a radiographer. Radiologists are doctors specially trained to interpret the images and carry out more complex examinations. Specialist radiographers may also perform your examination. They have been specially trained to carry out the examination and report it. They are supported by radiographers who are highly trained to carry out x-rays and other imaging procedures.

## **Are you required to make any special preparation?**

You must not eat or drink anything for 3 hours prior to your examination.

## **What happens during the investigation?**

You will be asked to put on a hospital gown. You will be taken into an x-ray room and asked to swallow some liquid x-ray dye which will show up on the x-rays. Xrays will be taken as you swallow the liquid.

## **How long does the investigation take?**

The whole process takes 15 to 20 minutes.

## **Are there any side/after effects?**

No.

## **How do you get the results of your investigation?**

The results of your examination will be sent to the consultant who referred you for the investigation. Your consultant will notify you when he/she has the results.

## **Important - Are you diabetic?**

If you did not make us aware you are diabetic when we arranged your appointment, please contact the Booking Centre on 0161 778 2233 to let us know.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding your investigation you contact us on 0161 778 2233.

## **Important - Could you be pregnant?**

This examination does involve using a small amount of radiation. This dose is kept to a minimum to reduce the risks to yourself

**This appointment for xray must fall within the first 28 days of your menstrual cycle, counting the day you start your period as day 1.** If this appointment does not fall within these 28 days or if you are at all uncertain, please contact the radiology booking centre on 0161 778 2233.

**It is important that this rule is adhered to.**

If you have any questions or concerns regarding your investigation please contact the radiology booking centre on 0161 778 2233.

**If English is not your first language and you need help, please contact the Interpretation and Translation Service**

Jeśli angielski nie jest twoim pierwszym językiem i potrzebujesz pomocy, skontaktuj się z działem tłumaczeń ustnych i pisemnych

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Dacă engleza nu este prima ta limbă și ai nevoie de ajutor, te rugăm să contactezi Serviciul de interpretare și traducere

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**For general enquiries please contact the Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) on 0161 604 5897**

**For enquiries regarding clinic appointments, clinical care and treatment please contact 0161 624 0420 and the Switchboard Operator will put you through to the correct department / service**

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**Date of publication: April 2009**

**Date of review: December 2020**

**Date of next review: December 2022**

**Ref: PI(DS)539**

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