

Having a Video Fluoroscopic Swallowing Assessment (VFSA)

An information guide



Having a Video Fluoroscopic Swallowing Assessment (VFSA)

This leaflet tells you about having a VFSA.

Who performs your investigation?

Your investigation will be performed jointly by a speech and language therapist and a specialist radiographer.

What is a VFSA?

This is an examination of your throat and oesophagus (the food pipe between your mouth and your stomach) and the mechanism which makes you swallow.

Are you required to make any special preparation?

There is no special preparation for this examination.

What happens during the investigation?

You may be asked to put on the hospital gown provided; this depends on what you are wearing.

You will be taken into an x-ray room and asked to swallow a variety of food substances mixed with barium, which is a white chalky liquid. These may vary from pure liquid to solid foods.

How long does the investigation take?

The whole process takes approximately 15 to 30 minutes.

Are there any side/after effects?

No.

How do you get the results of your examination?

The results of your examination will be explained to you by the speech and language therapist at the time and a formal report entered into your case notes.

Please be aware that this examination uses a low dose of radiation. This is not harmful to you but if you are pregnant there could be a risk to your unborn baby. If you have any questions please contact the xray department.

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

اگر انگریزی آپ کی پہلی زبان نہیں ہے اور آپ کو مدد کی ضرورت ہے تو ، براہ کرم ترجمانی اور ترجمہ خدمت سے رابطہ کریں

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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