

## Speech and Language Therapy Department Videofluoroscopy Information Leaflet

### Why have I been referred for a videofluoroscopy?

You have been referred because you have a swallowing problem.

The videofluoroscopy is an X-ray of your swallow. This will help the Speech and Language Therapist decide if food and drink is safe for you.



### What happens during the videofluoroscopy?

The X-ray will take place in the X-ray department in the hospital.

It will take 15 minutes

You will sit in a wheelchair

You will be given water, yoghurt, banana and biscuit to eat and drink. It is mixed with barium so it shows up on the X-ray. If you are allergic to these foods please tell us.

X-ray pictures will appear on a monitor and show us how well you are eating and drinking.



### Is the X-ray painful? Is the X-ray safe?

The X-ray does not hurt.

The amount of X-rays and food and drink that you are given is carefully controlled.

Some food and drink may go the wrong way. Very rarely this might be a large amount. If this makes you unwell, we will get medical help.

If you are pregnant please tell us.

**Can I bring someone with me to the X-ray?**

You can bring someone with you. They will need to stand behind a glass screen.



**Can I eat before the X-ray?**

You can eat and drink as normal before the X-ray, unless told otherwise.



If you have a feeding tube, you can have your feeds as normal.



**What shall I bring with me to the X-ray?**

Please bring any special cups or cutlery you use and your dentures.



**What happens afterwards?**

You can return to the ward or go home. The Speech and Language Therapist will give you some information after the X-ray.



**Students and teaching**

There may be students watching the X-ray. If you do not want this, please tell us.

We may use the X-ray for teaching. You cannot be identified from the X-ray.



**Questions**

Speak to your Speech and Language Therapist or call the Speech and Language Therapy department on 01603 287117

