

Fluoroscopy – Video Pharyngogram (Modified Barium Swallow)

To schedule: (319) 861-7778

Questions about your procedure: (319) 398-6050

What is Fluoroscopy?

Fluoroscopy is an X-ray study of moving body structures--similar to an X-ray "movie." A continuous X-ray beam is passed through the body part being examined. The beam is transmitted to a computer monitor so that the body part and its motion can be seen in detail.

What is a Video Pharyngogram Procedure?

A video pharyngogram (also known as cookie swallow or modified barium swallow study) is a swallowing study which involves a speech therapist to evaluate patients with a wide variety of swallowing difficulties under fluoroscopy. The primary purpose of this study is to determine whether the use of alternative swallowing techniques can allow the patient to eat and drink safely, without aspirating food or liquid. Barium (a type of contrast medium) will be given to you to swallow during this procedure.

Preparation:

This test does not require you to avoid eating or drinking prior to the study.

Procedure:

You will be sitting in a chair for this procedure. During the exam the Speech Therapist will have you drink or swallow a variety of barium consistencies including mixed with pudding or a cookie. Your swallowing will be recorded on a digital video to be reviewed in depth after the test is complete. The length of the test can vary from 15 to 30 minutes. The Speech Therapist will go over post procedure instruction with you or care giver following the exam.

Arrive 15 minutes early to your appointment

PLEASE BRING THE FOLLOWING TO YOUR APPOINTMENT:

A PHOTO ID TO VERIFY YOUR IDENTITY

A LIST OF CURRENT MEDICATIONS YOU ARE TAKING

Mercy Hospital Parking:

Park in the Mercy Medical Center 10th Street Parking Ramp, located at the corner of 10th Street and 8th Avenue SE. Proceed to **Ground (G)** level and follow the signs to "Radiology (X-Ray)," also located on **Ground (G)** level.

Procedure Results:

A radiologist will review the images shortly after your exam is completed. A written report will be sent to the provider who ordered your exam. Your provider will discuss the results with you. Results will typically be available for your provider within two business days of the exam. Results will also be sent to your MyChart account.