



Your Videofluoroscopy Examination

Radiology Department

Great Western Hospital

If you need to cancel or you have queries or concerns please contact the department on

01793 60 50 59

Opening Hours

Monday - Friday 9.00am – 4.30pm



Your Videofluoroscopy Examination

What is a Videofluoroscopy?

A Videofluoroscopy is an investigation that looks at the swallowing process in detail. It is arranged by the Speech and Language Therapist if they feel it would be helpful to obtain a more accurate, moving picture of the mouth and throat while you eat and drink.

Are there any risks involved?

The benefits far outweigh the risks for all methods of medical imaging, but as with any medical procedure, there is a very small risk of complications.

During your procedure you will receive a dose of ionising radiation to help us form images of your body and this will provide your doctor with detailed information. The radiation dose is always kept as low as possible. The actual dose you receive will vary depending on the type of procedure you are having, but your doctor has considered this and feels that this is the best procedure for you to have to help diagnose or treat your condition.

We are all at risk of developing cancer in our lifetime and the added risk from undergoing your procedure is small and is outweighed because of the benefits it provides and every procedure that you have in Radiology has been assessed to ensure that the benefit outweighs the risk. For more information see the displays within the department or ask a member of staff.

If you would like to discuss these before your appointment please contact: Speech Therapist on **01793 605101**



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Do I have to have this scan?

The doctor and Speech Therapist has requested this scan for you. It is the easiest way to gain the information needed to diagnose your problem.

What do I have to do before I come?

There is no preparation for this examination. You may drink and eat as normal.

For females of child bearing age.

You must ring for advice if:

- **You think you may be pregnant**
- **You are breast feeding**

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What does a videofluoroscopy involve?

When you arrive at the Radiology Department the Radiographer will collect you from the waiting room and take you to the x-ray room, they will ask you to put a gown on your top half. The Speech and Language Therapist will explain the procedure, which usually takes about 10 minutes to complete.

The Speech and Language Therapist and the Radiographer work together to take an x-ray while you have a drink, eat some yoghurt/bread or biscuit containing barium. We can watch this on a screen and gain a better idea about where the difficulty



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lies, and we may try different consistencies or strategies to help to make swallowing easier for you.

After

The Speech and Language Therapist will explain the results to you and make a plan for follow up.

From 1st January 2019 smoking will not be permitted on any NHS site in England. Smoking will not be permitted within any of our buildings or anywhere outside on our sites. Smoking facilities will not be provided. Please be considerate of others when vaping in hospital grounds.

This information sheet is available to order in other languages and formats. If you would like a copy, please contact us on 01793 604031 or email gwh.pals@nhs.net

Document Control

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