



Your Child's 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 Child's 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 whilst your child eats and drinks.

Are there any risks involved?

The benefits far outweigh the risks for all methods of medical imaging.

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

We are all at risk of developing cancer in our lifetime and the added risk from undergoing this procedure is small and is outweighed because of the benefits it provides and every procedure that your child will 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.



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What do I have to do before I come?

There is no preparation for this examination. Your child may drink and eat as normal. The Speech and Language Therapist will be in contact with you to discuss what you should bring with you for your child to swallow during the examination.

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What does a videofluoroscopy involve?

The Speech and Language Therapist will explain the procedure, which usually takes about 10 minutes to complete. The Speech and Language Therapist and the Consultant Radiologist work together to take the x-rays whilst your child swallows the things you have brought with you. These images are recorded on DVD from which the Speech Therapist will form a report.

You should allow about 45 minutes in the department.

What happens after the examination?

Your child may eat or drink anything that is normal for them. The Speech Therapist will forward a report to your paediatrician



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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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