

Videofluoroscopy

Speech and Language Therapy Department Community and Therapy Services

This leaflet has been designed to give you important information about your condition / procedure, and to answer some common queries that you may have.

Information for patients and visitors

What is a Videofluoroscopy?

A videofluoroscopy is a moving x-ray that is designed to study your feeding and swallowing, from the time food and drink enters your mouth until it passes into the tube that leads to the stomach (i.e. the Oesophagus).

What will happen?

To start with you will be given a small amount of liquid or food to swallow. This will be a special liquid that we can see on the x-ray or food with barium to coat it so that it can be seen on the x-ray. The amount of food or fluid that is tried will depend on how you are managing to swallow. You may also be given food of different consistencies because you may have difficulty with one type and not another e.g. a runny custard consistency may be easier to manage than one that requires chewing, e.g. a biscuit.

Benefits

The x-ray allows us to see what happens inside your throat when you swallow. This means we can see whether there is a problem with how food or fluid moves through your throat, and whether any of it goes down the wrong way into your lungs instead of your stomach (aspiration). It allows us to try different swallowing positions and strategies to see whether any of these make swallowing easier or safer. It also allows us to plan an exercise programme for you if that is appropriate.

Risks

There is a slight risk that you may aspirate some of the fluid or food used during the examination. We will keep the risk to a minimum by using small quantities and

monitoring you closely during the examination.

Alternatives

There is no alternative examination that gives the same information.

Why do I need to come?

You have been referred for the examination by your doctor or Consultant so that we can gather more information about your feeding / swallowing.

On the day

You can eat and drink as normal before the examination.

Please remove any jewellery from your neck and ears before the x-ray so that it does not block the view of your throat. Please also avoid wearing a jumper or blouse with a zip.

Where do I go?

The examination will take place in the x-ray department within the hospital.

Who will be there?

The clinic is run by two Specialist Speech and Language Therapists. There will also be a Radiographer present. There may be students or other professionals present to observe the clinic. Please tell us if you are not happy with this.

Contact details for Further Information

If you need any further information, please contact the Speech and Language Therapy Department:

Grimsby: 01472 875405

Scunthorpe and Goole: 01724 290043



Information for patients and visitors

Concerns and Queries

If you have any concerns / queries about any of the services offered by the Trust, in the first instance, please speak to the person providing your care.

For Diana, Princess of Wales Hospital – you can contact the Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) on (01472) 875403 or at the PALS office which is situated near the main entrance.

For Scunthorpe General Hospital – you can contact the Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) on (01724) 290132 or at the PALS office which is situated on C Floor.

Alternatively you can email:
nlg-tr.PALS@nhs.net

Confidentiality and How We Use Data

Personal information on NHS patients is collected and recorded within paper and electronic formats primarily to support high quality care that is safe and effective. To do this, information is also used to support quality improvement activities, investigate any concerns you may raise as well as to support and understand NHS performance. All NHS staff have a legal duty to keep information about you confidential.

Information will only ever be shared with people who have a genuine need for it. Other circumstances where information may be shared include administrative teams to plan future care needed, commissioners of Trust services, other NHS or social care providers and in some cases voluntary sector providers.

Zero Tolerance - Violent, Threatening and Abusive Behaviour

The Trust and its staff are committed to providing high quality care to patients within the department. However, we wish to advise all patients / visitors that the following inappropriate behaviour will not be tolerated:

- Swearing
- Threatening / abusive behaviour
- Verbal / physical abuse

The Trust reserves the right to withdraw from treating patients whom are threatening / abusive / violent and ensuring the removal of those persons from the premises.

All acts of criminal violence and aggression will be notified to the Police immediately.

Risk Management Strategy

The Trust welcomes comments and suggestions from patients and visitors that could help to reduce risk.

Perhaps you have experienced something whilst in hospital, whilst attending as an outpatient or as a visitor and you felt at risk.

Please tell a member of staff on the ward or in the department you are attending / visiting.

Moving & Handling

The Trust operates a Minimal Lifting Policy, which in essence means patients are only ever lifted by nursing staff in an emergency situation.

Patients are always encouraged to help themselves as much as possible when mobilising, and if unable to do so, equipment may be used to assist in their safe transfer.

If you have any questions regarding moving and handling of patients within the Trust, please speak to a member of staff in the ward or department you are visiting.

Information for patients and visitors

**Northern Lincolnshire and Goole NHS
Foundation Trust**

**Diana Princess of Wales Hospital
Scartho Road
Grimsby
DN33 2BA
01472 874111**

**Scunthorpe General Hospital
Cliff Gardens
Scunthorpe
DN15 7BH
01724 282282**

**Goole & District Hospital
Woodland Avenue
Goole
DN14 6RX
01405 720720**

www.nlg.nhs.uk

Date of issue: February, 2017

Review Period: February, 2020

**Author: Clinical Specialist Speech and
Language Therapists in Dysphagia and
Nutrition**

IFP-285 v2.3

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