



FL Video Pharyngogram

To Schedule: (319) 861-7778

Questions about Procedure: (319) 398-6050

701 10th Street SE
Cedar Rapids, IA 52403-1292
319 398-6011

What is a Video Pharyngogram procedure?

A Video Pharyngogram is a swallowing study which involves a Speech Therapist, Radiographer and a Radiologist or PA to evaluate patients with various conditions: Strokes, Aspiration Pneumonias, post-extubation, and a wide variety of swallowing difficulty problems.

The primary purpose of this study is to determine whether the use of compensatory swallowing techniques can allow the patient safe oral feeding, without aspirating food or liquid.

Preparation:

This test does not require the patient to refrain from eating or drinking prior to the study. However, patients also scheduled to have an Esophagram in conjunction with the Video Pharyngogram should not eat or drink after midnight before the exam.

PLEASE BRING THE FOLLOWING TO YOUR APPOINTMENT:

A PHOTO ID TO VERIFY YOUR IDENTITY

A LIST OF CURRENT MEDICATIONS YOU ARE TAKING

Procedure:

The procedure, also known as a "Cookie Swallow," or "Modified Barium Swallow" is performed in the Radiology Department. Your swallowing will be recorded on video tape to be reviewed in depth after the initial test is complete. The length of the test can vary from 15 to 45 minutes. This test is done on both inpatients and outpatients.

The patient will be assisted by the Speech Therapist in drinking or swallowing a variety of barium consistencies. The barium is mixed with pudding or a cookie which is where the alternate test name originated.

Results

The results of the Video Pharyngogram determine what diet, if any, will be given to the patient. A failed study usually results in alternate feeding methods including various swallowing techniques or a feeding tube. Sometimes multiple tests will be performed on patients with debilitating illnesses or recurrent aspiration to monitor progress.

Parking/Registration:

Park in the Mercy Medical Center 10th Street Parking Ramp, located at the corner of 10th Street and 8th Ave. SE. You will be pre-registered, so you can proceed to

Ground (G) level and follow the signs to “Radiology (X-Ray),” also located on Ground (G) level.

Procedure Results (Who interprets the results):

A radiologist will review the images shortly after the exam is completed. A written report will be sent to your doctor. Your doctor will discuss the results with you. Please allow your physician time to review these results, usually 2 business days after the exam.

Your appointment date and time:

Procedure date: _____

Procedure time: _____ (Please arrive 15 minutes early)