

**Barium Swallow Study-** The purpose of this test is to study the function and appearance of the pharynx and esophagus. You will be given barium (a white chalky liquid) to drink during this test. Barium is a contrast agent that improves the quality of the images. Please inform the technologist if you are allergic to barium or any contrast agent. Please inform the technologist if you are pregnant. Many imaging tests are not performed during pregnancy.

You must be NPO (**nothing to eat or drink- including medications**) after midnight the day of the test. If you are scheduled for an afternoon appointment, do not eat or drink for at least 6 hours before your test. If you are diabetic please consult your physician as to any special instructions concerning your diabetes prior to the test. Please bring your current home medications or a list of your medications with you the day of the test. You may be asked to remove some or all of your clothes and to wear a gown during the test. You may also be asked to remove jewelry, removable dental hardware, eye glasses, and any metal objects or clothing that might interfere with the images.

The test may require you to stand, lie flat, or turn from side to side. Multiple images of your anatomy will be taken using a radiographic camera. The images will be reviewed by a Radiologist (a doctor that reads xrays) and a report will be sent to your ordering physician in 48 hours. The test takes approximately 30 minutes. The technologist will give you discharge instructions after the completion of the test.