

Procedures/Diagnostic Tests

Swallowing test

You are scheduled for a swallowing test. For this test, x-ray pictures will be taken while you drink a liquid containing barium. This test helps your doctor study how you swallow.

Preparation

Usually, there is no preparation, but if an upper G.I. x-ray is needed, do not eat after midnight on the day of the test.

Procedure

You will be asked to swallow a drink containing barium. Your swallowing will then be filmed by x-ray.

After the procedure

- The results of this test will be reported to you and your family.
- You may be given medication to help your body rid itself of barium.

If you have questions about the procedure, please ask. Your nurse and doctor are ready to assist you at all times.

Special instructions

This information is prepared specifically for persons taking part in clinical research at the National Institutes of Health Clinical Center and may not apply to patients elsewhere. If you have questions about the information presented here, talk to a member of your health care team.

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