



Videofluoroscopy **(swallow x-ray)** **Information**



What is videofluoroscopy?

A videofluoroscopy is a moving x-ray that is used for the assessment of swallowing. This tool allows the speech pathologist to see the movement of food and fluid from the mouth into the oesophagus. This information is used to assess and diagnose swallowing difficulties.

What do I need to do to prepare?

Nothing. You do not need to fast or prepare in any way.

What happens during the videofluoroscopy?

The speech pathologist and radiographer will be in the room to instruct you throughout the procedure.

You will be asked to eat and drink a variety of food and fluid consistencies. These will have barium contrast mixed in so they can be seen under x-ray. Different strategies and positions may also be trialled.

Results

You will be provided with preliminary results and recommendations immediately after the procedure.

A formal report will be completed following the videofluoroscopy and sent to your referring doctor. With your consent, the report can be sent to other members of your treating team.

It may be recommended that you commence therapy to manage your swallowing difficulties.

Costs

A radiology fee is payable on the day of your assessment to the imaging department at the hospital. Please call them directly for a quote.

Speech pathology outpatient services do not qualify for automatic Medicare rebates; however, you may be eligible for funding via various funding bodies (eg. NDIS, TAC, DVA etc), or your private health insurance depending on your level of cover.

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