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8.30 am – 5.00 pm
Monday – Friday

No Smoking Policy

Please protect our patients, visitors and staff by adhering to our no smoking policy. Smoking is not permitted in any of our hospital buildings or grounds, except in the dedicated smoking shelters in the grounds of our Hospital site.

For advice and support on how to give up smoking, go to www.nhs.uk/smokefree.

Translation and Interpretation Service

It is our policy that family, relatives or friends cannot interpret for patients. Should you require an interpreter ask a member of staff to arrange it for you.

تتضمن سياستنا على عدم السماح لافراد عائلة المرضى او اقاربهم او اصديقاتهم بالترجمة لهم. اذا احتجت الى مترجم فيرجي ان تطلب ذلك من احد العاملين ليرتب لك ذلك.

بماری یہ پالیسی ہے کہ خاندان، رشتہ دار اور دوست مریضوں کے لئے ترجمہ نہیں کر سکتے۔ اگر آپ کو مترجم کی ضرورت ہے تو عملے کے کسی رکن سے کہیں کہ وہ آپ کے لئے اس کا بندوبست کر دے۔

ইহা আমাদের নীতি যে, একজন রোগীর জন্য তার পরিবারের সদস্য, আত্মীয় বা কোন বন্ধু অনুবাদক হতে পারবেন না। আপনার একজন অনুবাদকের প্রয়োজন হলে তা একজন কর্মচারীকে জানান অনুবাদকের ব্যবস্থা করার জন্য।

Nasze zasady nie pozwalają na korzystanie z pomocy członków rodzin pacjentów, ich przyjaciół lub ich krewnych jako tłumaczy. Jeśli potrzebują Państwo tłumacza, prosimy o kontakt z członkiem personelu, który zorganizuje go dla Państwa.

Waa nidaamkeena in qoys, qaraabo amaasaaxii boaysanu tarjumikarinbukaanka. Haddiidaad baahatotarjumaankacadosoxubinka mid ah shaqaalahainaykuusameeyaan.

我们的方针是，家属，亲戚和朋友不能为病人做口译。如果您需要口译员，请叫员工给您安排。



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Barium Follow Through

Royal Manchester Children's Hospital
Division of Imaging



Introduction

A barium follow through examination is used to show your child's oesophagus (food pipe), stomach and small intestine.

What do I need to do before bringing my child to hospital?

To ensure good quality images, your child should be starved for four hours prior to the test. If your child has a favourite bottle or beaker cup you may like to bring it with you. We give older children a cup and straw.

What will happen in the hospital?

Your child will usually need to put on a hospital gown but may keep their underwear on. Baby clothes with poppers will need to be removed. Older children may prefer to keep their own T-shirt on, however, this must be plain. You may like to bring a spare in case of spillages.

You and your child will come into the examination room. Your child will usually be asked to drink barium.

Barium is a harmless thick, white liquid that shows up very well on X-rays. We often add milk shake flavourings, your child can choose a flavour. The test is mainly to look at the small bowel (intestine) but the Radiologist (X-ray Doctor) will usually have a look at the oesophagus (food pipe) and stomach while your child is drinking. You will be able to see the pictures on the TV screen.

After your child has drunk the barium liquid you will both be asked to wait outside to give the barium drink a chance to make its way through to the small bowel. We will bring you back into the room at intervals to take pictures.

When the barium has reached the large bowel, the Radiologist will take some extra pictures and may need to press gently on your child's tummy to get better views.

This test usually takes between one and three hours, but this may be variable and in some cases can take up to six hours. It is advisable to bring either a book or some distraction for your child.

You will need to wear a protective apron if you stay with your child during the investigation.

What happens after the test?

Your child can eat and drink straight after any barium test and should drink plenty of fluids for the next 24 hours as barium can sometimes cause constipation. In all children barium may be visible in the bowel motions for up to two days.

The radiologist performing the examination may be able to give you a provisional result of the test but often the images are reviewed with other tests your child may be having, in which case a final report will be sent to your referring Consultant in 2-3 weeks.

The results of the investigation will be discussed with you at your child's next appointment with the Consultant or they may write to you about the results.

Risks and benefits

Everyone is exposed to ionising radiation (for example from gamma rays from space, air travel, natural radiation from the ground) all the time. This is one of the causes of cancer and other illnesses. This test will give your child a small extra dose of ionising radiation. Your Doctors have taken this into account when asking your child to have this test, and believe that this the best test for your child.

Girls of 12 years and over will be asked to tell us the first day of their last menstrual period so that we can avoid giving radiation to an unborn baby unless it is absolutely necessary. This is because the risk is slightly greater for unborn children.

You can get more information about the risks and benefits of X-rays from www.nhs.uk or www.hpa.org.uk. Go to the homepages and search for 'X-rays'