



**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

## **SWALLOWING TEST MODIFIED BARIUM SWALLOW**

**The following information is a brief description about Modified Barium Swallow. If you have any questions after reading this information, please speak with your nurse.**

### **WHAT IS A SWALLOW TEST?**

- ❖ The swallowing test is a x-ray of the mouth and throat area to identify problems while swallowing.

### **WHY IS IT DONE?**

- ❖ To evaluate possible causes of problems with swallowing (dysphagia). Symptoms may be coughing and/or choking while eating or drinking.

### **WHERE IS THE PROCEDURE DONE?**

- ❖ Radiology Department, 2nd Floor, Tisch Hospital.

### **HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE?**

- ❖ 15-30 minutes.

### **WHAT PREPARATION IS NEEDED?**

- ❖ You can eat and drink as usual before the test.
- ❖ Escort staff will take you by wheelchair or stretcher to the Radiology Department



**WHAT HAPPENS DURING THE PROCEDURE?**

- ❖ You will be placed in a sitting position.
- ❖ The Technologist will take x-rays of your mouth and throat area.
- ❖ The swallowing therapist is present to assist with the test and observe you swallowing.
- ❖ You will be asked to swallow foods and liquids of various consistencies, such as, barium in water, barium in pudding, barium in applesauce, and a graham cracker with barium on top.
- ❖ Barium is needed to allow images to be taken as you swallow.
- ❖ If needed, the swallowing therapist may give you techniques to improve swallowing during the test. Some treatment techniques are as simple as changing your head or body position when you swallow or changing the types of food you eat.

**WHAT HAPPENS AFTER THE PROCEDURE?**

- ❖ You will be returned to your room after the test. You can resume your usual diet and activities.
- ❖ Your doctor will receive results of the test within 24 hours.

**SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS OR QUESTIONS**

---

---

---