YOUR DOCTOR HAS REQUESTED AN ESOPHAGRAM

AM

Your appointment is on ___/___ at __ : __ PM in 1-C DCAM The Adult Radiology Department. Please arrive 20 minutes early to this appointment to complete the necessary paperwork.

PURPOSE: To examine your esophagus for problems (for example, heartburn or ulcerations).

PREPARATION: If you have had any type of exam with swallowed barium contrast in the last two weeks, contact the Radiology Department at (773) 702-6161 several days before this exam for preparation instructions.

You may eat regularly on the day before your exam, but you may swallow NOTHING after midnight. Your stomach must be completely empty for this exam. This means no food and no water until you're released. If you are on medication or a medical diet, consult your personal physician before these instructions begin.

NO SMOKING OR ORAL HYGIENE are allowed on the morning of the exam day. Substances like nicotine, toothpaste and mouthwash make your stomach secrete fluids that will also interfere with the exam. Remember that you can not eat or drink until after your exam.

EXAMINATION: The radiologist will give you a few carbonated crystals to swallow with water while you in the upright position. These crystals will produce gas in your throat and stomach. Right away you will be given barium to drink, which will make your system visible on the X-rays. The barium tastes somewhat chalky. The radiologist will take X-rays of your throat while you swallow the barium, then more of your stomach while you lie down on the exam table. You will be given more barium to drink while you're lying down. The entire exam will take about 30 minutes.

POST PROCEDURE INSTRUCTIONS: Once the radiologist has reviewed your images you will be dismissed. You should drink lots of fluids for the next three days to help eliminate any leftover barium. A report will be sent to your doctor in about three business days.

If you are unable to keep your appointment please contact us 24hrs in advance to cancel.
The Department of Radiology
(773) 702-6161