



PATIENT INFORMATION

Radiology Department Information for Inpatients having a Barium Follow-Through

Patient Details

Name.....

Hospital Number.....

Ward.....

Date/time of planned procedure.....



What is a barium follow-through?

This is an examination of the small bowel. On arrival in the Radiology Department you will need to drink some white fruit flavoured fluid (barium) that will show the small bowel on the x-rays. X-rays will then be taken at intervals (between 15 and 45 minutes), with you lying on an x-ray table. When the barium has outlined the whole of the small bowel, the Radiologist (doctor) will take some more x-rays which are viewed on a TV monitor.

The time taken for the examination is variable, ranging from 1 to 4 hours.

This is a relatively simple procedure that has very little risks and we will be pleased to explain in more detail or answer any questions you may have.

If you have any questions then you can ask the ward staff to contact us.

Radiology coordinator ☎ (01803) 655622

Radiology nurses ☎ (01803) 655657

Preparation

- On the day before the examination have a low residue diet (ask your nurse for advice). Don't worry if you did not have time to start this diet, you will still be able to have this examination.
- On the day before your examination, take 4 senna tablets with a drink.
- From midnight, have nothing to eat or drink until after the examination.
- If you suffer from Crohn's disease or have a colectomy do not take the senna tablets and ask your nurse to let us know.
- If you are diabetic, please ask your nurse to contact us.