

**Appointment Date:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Time:** \_\_\_\_\_

**LOCATION:** Aultman Main Hospital: 2600 6<sup>th</sup> St. SW, Canton

**DEPARTMENT:** Imaging Services (Radiology)

## SUMMARY OF THE EXAM

An esophagram is an X-ray of the esophagus. A doctor who specializes in X-rays (radiologist) or a physician's assistant will perform the exam. They will take pictures while you are drinking barium standing and lying down. The barium coats the esophagus, allowing the doctor to look for abnormalities.

## WHAT TO EXPECT

There is no pain associated with an esophagram. Some people find the texture of the barium unpleasant.

## INSTRUCTIONS

- Please bring a written order from your doctor to the exam.
- Please bring a complete list of all your medications.
- Please bring a driver's license or other photo ID.
- Please arrive 15 minutes prior to your scheduled time.
- Do not have anything to eat or drink after midnight the night before the exam. This includes gum chewing and smoking.

**NOTE:** Blood work should always be drawn before X-rays are performed. If you are having blood work, please arrive early and inform the outpatient lab you have a radiology appointment. Please arrive on time for your radiology exam.

## LENGTH OF EXAM

Although the exam takes about 30 – 45 minutes, plan on being in the department for **at least one-and-a-half hours** from check in until the exam is complete.

## AFTER THE EXAM

Drink plenty of fluids to help move barium through your digestive tract. A mild laxative is sometimes helpful to aid in the elimination of barium.

You should expect receive the results of your exam at your next health care provider appointment (if scheduled) or within 10 days of your exam. Please call your health care provider if you do not receive your results.

## **QUESTIONS PRIOR TO YOUR TEST**

Call 330-363-6200 weekdays between 6:30 a.m. – 11 p.m. or weekends between 7 a.m. – 7 p.m. for any questions about your test.

## **SCHEDULING AND REGISTRATION**

Pre-registration is required for an accurate medical record and proper billing. You may be contacted by a patient access representative if we need any information. If you have questions or need to schedule or reschedule your exam, please call 330-363-6288 or 1-800-837-0440 Monday – Friday between 7 a.m. and 6 p.m. All exams require a written order from your physician.

## **HOSPITAL PARKING**

Free visitor parking is available in Lot 3 across from the Bedford Building. Enter from 6<sup>th</sup> Street. Valet parking is available at the 7<sup>th</sup> Street and Bedford Building entrances for a fee – or free if you are a handicapped motorist. Deck parking is available on 7<sup>th</sup> Street for a fee based on your length of stay.

## **DIRECTIONS TO THE DEPARTMENT**

Imaging Services/Radiology (7<sup>th</sup> Street deck parking is the closest parking) is located on the ground level of the main hospital. From the main hospital lobby, take the elevators to the ground level. After exiting the elevator, turn to your left and you will see the check-in desk.