

UnityPoint Health - Finley Hospital Radiology Patient/Family Information
Esophagram

What is an Esophagram Procedure?

An esophagram procedure is an exam of the esophagus. The exam is performed in fluoroscopy and will take approximately 15-20 minutes.

Special Note

Before the exam, please tell your doctor if you are or there is a possibility you may be pregnant.

Preparation

Please bring your medication list with you to your exam.

If you are normally on a special diet, like a diabetic, you should ask your doctor about planning your diet for this procedure.

It is important that your stomach be empty in order to have a valid study. No food, fluids or medications should be taken after midnight the evening before the examination. Also, do not chew gum or smoke. Doing either will affect the results of the exam. If you have questions concerning medications please contact your physician.

What Happens During the Test?

The patient will drink barium as the radiologist takes x-ray images. For air contrast, you will also be asked to swallow a crystal like substance. These crystals form gas in the stomach, which helps the stomach show up on x-ray. Try to refrain from burping.

If the patient is able to stand, the initial x-rays will be done standing up.

When Will I Know the Results?

The radiologist will review all the x-rays and information after the exam is completed. A written report will be sent to your doctor. Your doctor will discuss these results with you.

Please allow your physician the time needed to review these results.

Name: _____

Exam Date/Time: _____