

Your child's X-ray of their mouth to assess speech problems (lateral videofluoroscopy)

Department of Radiology

Information for Patients

Produced: May 2023

Review: May 2026

Leaflet number: 134 Version: 1

Introduction

This leaflet contains information for patients, parents and carers about a special X-ray test to look at part of the mouth called the palate. We have designed it for you and your child to read together. It is important that your child knows what to expect when they come for the test so that it can be completed quickly and easily.



Important information for parents and carers

Before the appointment:

- **If you need an interpreter, or if you have any special requirements**, please contact the radiology department for more information.
- **Medication should be taken as usual** unless you have been advised otherwise by the doctor.
- Other children will **not** be allowed in the X-ray room whilst this test is being done. If you have other children please make child care arrangements for them and do not bring them into hospital if possible.
- **Relatives and escorts:** 1 parent or carer can go into the X-ray room when the test takes place unless you are or have any reason to suspect you might be pregnant.. This may be useful if your child does not understand English very well or if they have any special needs. Please note there is limited space in the waiting area.
- **Getting to the hospital:** Transport has not been arranged for this appointment. If transport is needed please contact either your GP or the Radiology Department.

**Health information and support is available at www.nhs.uk
or call 111 for non-emergency medical advice**

Visit www.leicestershospitals.nhs.uk for maps and information about visiting Leicester's Hospitals
To give feedback about this information sheet, contact InformationForPatients@uhl-tr.nhs.uk

Support for people with learning disabilities

There is support available in our hospitals for patients with learning disabilities. Please contact the learning disability specialist nursing team on (0116) 250 2809 telling them when the appointment is and what examination has been booked.

What is a lateral videofluoroscopy?

Videofluoroscopy (pronounced vid-ee-oh-floor-oss-cop-ee) is a video made from lots of small X-ray pictures.

Lateral means the pictures are taken from the side.

The X-ray video lets us see how the roof of your child's mouth (the soft palate) moves when they are speaking. The video shows if the soft palate separates the back of their nose and mouth.

Why does my child need a lateral videofluoroscopy?

The Speech and Language Therapist has assessed your child's speech and think their soft palate may not be moving well enough when they are speaking. The results of the test will help the Speech and Language Therapist and the doctor who specialises in problems with the soft palate (cleft surgeon) decide with you the best way to manage your child's speech difficulties.

How should my child get ready for the test?

- Please go through this leaflet with your child if you want to.
- Your child does not need to do any special to get ready for this test.
- Your child can eat and drink as normal on the day.
- If your child is on medication for their doctor this should be taken as normal.

What are the risks from exposure to radiation in this test?

The risk of having X-rays is very small. We are all exposed to natural background radiation every day of our lives. This comes from the sun, the food we eat, and the ground. Each X-ray gives a dose on top of this natural background radiation. The risks of radiation are slightly higher for the unborn child, so for some types of X-rays of the abdomen and pelvis we must ask some people aged 10 and over about their periods.

The radiation from the X-rays during this test is equivalent to receiving about a few months of natural background radiation.

Any questions or concerns about the use of X-rays can be answered at the time of the appointment. We will take all safeguards to minimize the amount of X-rays your child receives.

Information for children

What happens when I arrive for my test?

When you get to the Radiology Department you will be shown to the Children's X-ray Reception.

You will need to wait in the waiting room until we are ready for you.

When we are ready, we will take you into the X-ray room. 1 parent or carer can come in with you.

What happens in the X-ray room?

- You will be asked to either stand or sit close to the X-ray machine.
- The X-ray machine will be at your side. The machine will move up, down and sideways so we can get it in the best position. The machine will not touch you.
- When the X-ray machine in the best position you will be asked to keep your head still.
- You will be asked to copy some sounds, words and short sentences while the X-rays are taken.

How long will it take?

The videofluoroscopy will take between 15 and 20 minutes. The time will vary slightly for each child.

Who will be in the X-ray room?

A Speech and Language Therapist will do the test.

There will be someone who is trained to take X-ray pictures (a radiographer or assistant practitioner) and there may also be a radiology assistant in the room to help you.

As we are a teaching hospital a student may also be present. If you wish, you can ask that students are not present during your examination.

What happens when my X-rays are finished?

After your X-rays you can go home.

How do I find out what the results are?

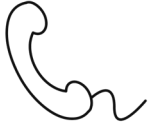
The results will not be given to you straight away.

The X-ray video will be looked at carefully by the Speech and Language Therapists and the Cleft Surgeons. They will decide how to help improve your speech and if any treatments might help.

You will get these results another day either by letter, a phone call or at an appointment.

What if I need to talk to someone?

If you have any questions or concerns, or cannot make the appointment please call the Radiology Department on **0116 258 8765 (option 1)** - Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm, excluding bank holidays.



If you have any questions about the examination, you can call the Speech and Language Therapy team on **0116 295 5256**.

اگر آپ کو یہ معلومات کسی اور زبان میں درکار ہیں، تو براہ کرم مندرجہ ذیل نمبر پر ٹیلی فون کریں۔
على هذه المعلومات بلغة أخرى، الرجاء الاتصال على رقم الهاتف الذي يظهر في الأسفل
જો તમને અન્ય ભાષામાં આ માહિતી જોઈતી હોય, તો નીચે આપેલ નંબર પર કૃપા કરી ટેલિફોન કરો

ਜੇ ਤੁਸੀਂ ਇਹ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਕਿਸੇ ਹੋਰ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਵਿਚ ਚਾਹੁੰਦੇ ਹੋ, ਤਾਂ ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਹੇਠਾਂ ਦਿੱਤੇ ਗਏ ਨੰਬਰ 'ਤੇ ਟੈਲੀਫੋਨ ਕਰੋ।
Aby uzyskać informacje w innym języku, proszę zadzwonić pod podany niżej numer telefonu

If you would like this information in another language or format such as EasyRead or Braille, please telephone 0116 250 2959 or email equality@uhl-tr.nhs.uk