Fibreoptic Endoscopic Evaluation of Swallowing (FEES)
What is FEES?
Fibreoptic Endoscopic Evaluation of Swallowing (FEES) is a test which allows your swallowing to be assessed by a Speech and Language Therapist using a camera called an endoscope.

What does it involve?
Two Speech and Language Therapists will carry out the examination. You will need to sit upright.

A very thin tube will be placed into one nostril and moved back through your nose until a clear view of your throat is seen. You will be able to see your throat on the television screen if you choose.

You will be asked to do several things e.g. say certain sounds, swallow your saliva, eat and drink if appropriate.

The examination will be recorded to enable the Speech and Language Therapists to analyse it at a later time.

What are the benefits?
It allows examination of your swallowing and your throat in detail. It also enables us to try different foods and/or different techniques if appropriate to help you swallow more effectively.

We can then use this information to give you advice about your eating/drinking/swallowing.

What are the risks?
The procedure is extremely safe with a low risk of complications or side effects. At times, the passing of the camera through the nose causes mild to moderate discomfort.

Once the camera is positioned in the throat, any discomfort usually disappears.

How do I get the results?
We will try to give you feedback and advice immediately after the examination. However, at times it may be necessary for the Speech and Language Therapists to analyse the recording of your examination in order to give you detailed advice.

A report will be written and you may request a copy if you would like one.
How long will it take?
This can vary. Usually it takes approximately 10 to 15 minutes. In certain cases we may need to watch you eating and drinking with the camera in place over a longer period of time.

Can I eat before this procedure?
Unless you have been advised otherwise you can eat and drink as normal before your appointment. If you are currently feeding through a tube, you can take your feeds as normal up until your appointment time.

Please note: If you have any further questions regarding your examination please contact the:

Speech and Language Therapy Department

0161 206 5450
speech.therapy@srft.nhs.uk
For further information on this leaflet, it’s references and sources used, please contact 0161 206 5450.

Copies of this leaflet are available in other formats (for example, large print or easyread) upon request. Alternative formats may also be available via www.srft.nhs.uk/for-patients/patient-leaflets/

In accordance with the Equality Act we will make reasonable adjustments to enable individuals with disabilities to access this service. Please contact the service/clinic you are attending by phone or email prior to your appointment to discuss your requirements. Interpreters are available for both verbal and non-verbal (e.g. British Sign Language) languages, on request. Please contact the service/clinic you are visiting to request this.

If you need this information leaflet translated, please telephone:

Polish Jeżeli potrzebne jest Państwu do tłumaczenie, proszę zadzwonić pod numer.

Urdu اگر آپ کوئس ترجمه کی ضرورت ہے تو مہربانی کر کے فون کریں.

Arabic إذا كنت بحاجة إلى تفسير أو ترجمة هذا الرجاء الاتصال

Chinese 如果需要翻译，请拨打电话

Farsi اگر به ترجمه این نیاز دارید ، لطفاً تلفن کنید 0161 206 0224

or Email: InterpretationandTrans@srft.nhs.uk

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This is a teaching hospital which plays an important role in the training of future doctors. The part patients play in this process is essential to make sure that we produce the right quality doctors for all of our futures. If at any time you would prefer not to have students present please inform the doctor or nurses and this will not affect your care in anyway.

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