

700 Children's Drive
Columbus, Ohio 43205-2696
nationwidechildrens.org

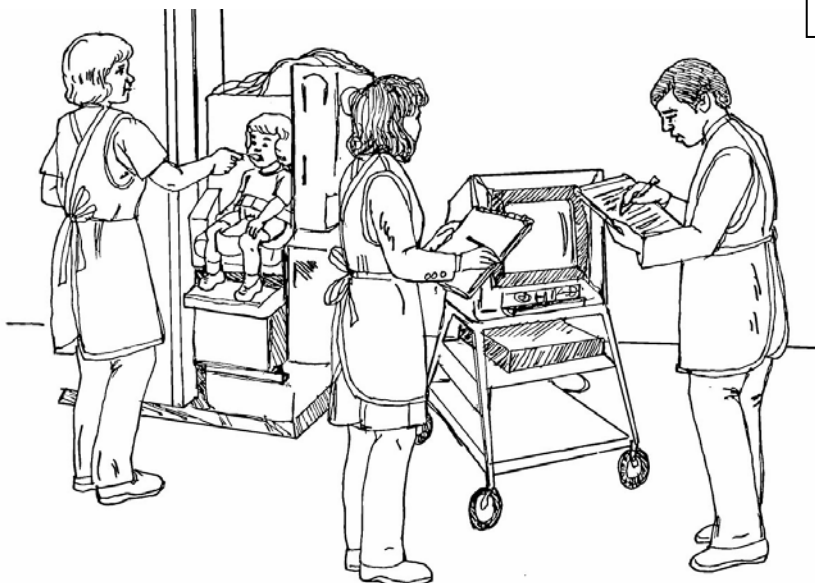
ORAL MOTOR EVALUATION AND VIDEOFLUOROSCOPIC SWALLOW STUDY (OME/VSS)

The OME (oral motor evaluation) and videofluoroscopic (VID-ee-oh-floor-oh-SCOP-ic swallow study) are special tests that show how well your child can swallow food and liquid (Picture 1).

HOW TO PREPARE FOR THE TEST

- Explain to your child what will happen. Use words he or she can understand.
- If your child uses a special bottle, spoon, or cup, please bring it with you.
- Please do not give your child food or drinks -
 - After 6:15 a.m.
 - After 11:15 a.m.

You may give medicine to your child at any time before the test.



For Outpatient Use Only

Child's name _____

APPOINTMENT:

Date _____

Check in time _____

Please come 15 minutes before your time to register.

Bring your child to:

- The Fluoroscopy Department Registration Desk, first floor of the main building of Children's Hospital. Telephone: (614) 722-3975.
- Children's Hospital Westerville Close-to-Home Center, Registration Desk.

Please Note: Patients who are more than 30 minutes late for their appointment will need to be rescheduled.

Picture 1 Having a videofluoroscopic swallow study.

HOW THE TEST IS DONE

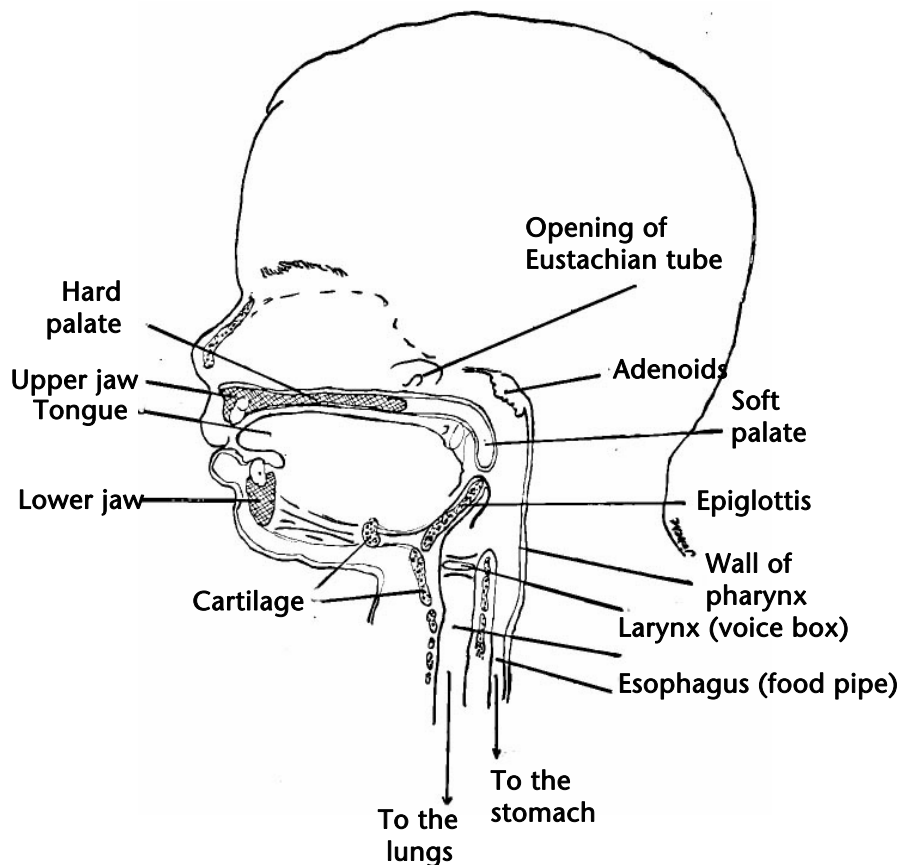
- The first part of a videofluoroscopic swallow study is an oral motor test. An occupational therapist (OT) and a speech pathologist (SP) will look at the way your child uses his lips, tongue, and the muscles in his mouth when he eats (Picture 2).
- The second part of the study is done in the Radiology Department by a radiologist, speech pathologist, and occupational therapist. A nurse may also be present.
- Food used during the test will be mixed with barium (BARE-ee-um). Barium makes the food and liquid show up on the X-ray screen so the doctor, the OT, and the SP can see how well your child chews and swallows. Your child may be given several types of food and liquid during the test. The barium may make the food taste a little different. Please bring small amounts of foods that your child both likes and dislikes.
- Parents may watch the test while it is being done.
- Your child will usually be fed in the same feeding position that you use at home. The OT and the SP or doctor may also want to watch your child eat in other positions.
- There will be a large X-ray camera on one side of your child and a large X-ray table on the other side of him (Picture 1, page 1). When the X-ray machine is turned on, it will make a clicking noise. The camera will record how your child eats and drinks. The doctor, the OT, and the SP will watch how the muscles in your child's mouth and throat move the food and liquid when the child is drinking, chewing, and swallowing.
- The entire process usually takes about 2 hours.
- If you have any questions during the test, please ask the radiologist or the therapists.

AFTER THE TEST

- It takes 24 to 48 hours for the full report to be completed. Your child's doctor will receive the test results and will discuss them with you.
- You may notice a small amount of white barium in your child's bowel movements after the test. (It may look like chalk.) This will go away as the barium moves all the way through the bowels.

If you have questions before the test or need to change the appointment, please call the:

Children's Hospital Speech Pathology and Audiology Department at (614) 722-3975.



Picture 2 Inside a child's mouth and throat.