



Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
National Guard Health Affairs
King Abdulaziz Medical city
Medical Imaging Department

Diagnostic Imaging Section

Modified barium swallow study.(MBS)

A modified barium swallow study or MBS is a special x-ray that is taken to check swallowing skills. It's carried out by the radiologist and speech language pathologist (SLP). During this test your mouth, Throat and esophagus a muscular tube which connects your mouth to your stomach is checked. This test will help you, your doctor , and the SLP plan what types of foods and liquids are easier for you to swallow. The SLP will also identify positions and ways to help you swallow more easily and safely.



How it is done.



- You will be taken to an x-ray room and seated comfortably. You will be asked to swallow small amount of food and liquid mixed with barium. The x-ray captures moving images of the food you are swallowing as it travels from your mouth through your throat and into your esophagus. This test helps identify whether food or liquid is entering your lungs (aspiration) this test also shows which part of your mouth or throat lacks strength or coordination to move the food or liquid in the right direction.

Why it is done?

- Have globus (feeling of food “stuck in the throat”).
- Are not able to accept / tolerate fiber optic endoscopic evaluation of swallowing.
- Have suspected oral stage problems (problems keeping food/liquid in the mouth or moving food/ liquid around the mouth) that should be imaged.
- Have esophageal stage problems (problems with food/ liquid moving through the esophagus to the stomach) or suspicion of reflux.



For more information please contact
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