

24 hour oesophageal pH study

- information for parents

Your child has an appointment for a pH study. This is a safe and reliable test for detecting reflux. A condition when stomach contents go back up the oesophagus (the tube that leads from the mouth to the stomach).

Procedure

A small probe (a thin tube) is passed through the nose into the lower part of the oesophagus. Passing the probe does not take long but some children find it upsetting. When the probe is in the correct position your child may resume normal activity. The probe should not feel uncomfortable but some children take a little while to get used to the presence of the probe. They may complain of a sore throat, or discomfort in the back of the throat. We can decide whether or not you wish to stay overnight on the ward or whether you want to go home and return the following day for the removal of the probe. The probe is removed after 24 hours (occasionally less) and analysis and results are usually given at your child's next outpatients appointment.

Preparation for the study

- If your child is taking cisapride (PREPULSID) this should be stopped 48 hours before the study
- If your child is taking ranitidine (ZANTAC) this should be stopped 48 hours before the study
- If your child is taking domperidone (MOTILLIUM) this should be stopped 48 hours before the study
- If your child is taking omeprazole (LOSEC) this should be stopped 5 days before the study
- Please ensure that your child does not have anything to eat or drink for 2 hours before the study

During the test please encourage your child to eat and drink normally. There is no need to make any changes to their diet.

If you have any other queries, please contact:
Crawshay ward
020 7830 2381
(during office hours)