



**Appointment date:**

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**Time:**

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**Location:**

- Calvary North Adelaide
- Calvary Central Districts
- Memorial Hospital

**Notes:**

## Patient Information Handout

# Barium Studies

Barium is an inert white substance that can be swallowed or introduced via the colon to help examine the digestive tract. The barium coats the wall of the digestive tract, making its surface visible when examined with x-rays. Some examinations involve introducing gas, either by swallowing a fizzy drink, or inflating the bowel with air through a soft tube.

The study can assist in identifying processes such as inflammation, tumours, strictures and other structural changes.

### BOOKING YOUR APPOINTMENT

Please call our friendly staff on 8402 0200. These procedures are only performed at certain sites. Please discuss available options with our booking staff.

### WHAT TO BRING

- Radiology referral
- Medicare card
- Healthcare/Concession card (if applicable)
- Previous relevant imaging
- Other relevant documents

### PREPARATION FOR YOUR STUDY

Our staff will explain any relevant preparation with you over the phone at the time of the booking. The following preparation instructions serve as a reminder:

#### Barium Meal / Swallow

Do not eat or drink for six hours prior to your appointment.

#### Barium Enema

You will be required to start enema kit 12 noon the day before, which can be collected from your doctor's rooms or our department.

### TIME REQUIRED

Most barium studies require 30 minutes.

Please arrive at the time specified when you make your appointment.

