

Further information

If you have any worries at all about your surgery please phone the ward where you had your procedure carried out:

St Helens	Sanderson Suite 01744 646 098
Whiston	Ward 4B on 0151 430 1637
Southport	01704 705 227
Ormskirk	01695 656 885

Please do not return to the ward before seeking advice from a member of nursing staff. Your surgeon will usually be able to tell you what was found, and what they did to help you, on the same day as your operation. If any biopsies were taken, these normally take at least a few days to process. Your surgeon will arrange to see you again for your results

Other useful organisations: www.ENTUK.org

Whiston Hospital
Warrington Road,
Prescot, Merseyside, L35 5DR
Telephone: 0151 426 1600

St Helens Hospital
Marshalls Cross Road,
St Helens, Merseyside, WA9 3DA
Telephone: 01744 26633

Southport Hospital
Town Lane, Kew,
Southport, Merseyside,
PR8 6PN
Telephone: 01704 547 471

Ormskirk Hospital
Dicconson Way, Wigan Road,
Ormskirk, Lancashire, L39 2AZ
Telephone: 01695 577 111

Pharyngoscopy/ Upper Oesophagoscopy

Patient Discharge Information

If you need this leaflet in a different language or accessible format
please speak to a member of staff who can arrange it for you.

اگر به این بروشور به زبان دیگر یا در قالب دسترس پذیر نیاز دارید،
لطفاً با یکی از کارکنان صحبت کنید تا آن را برای شما تهیه کند.

Jeśli niniejsza ulotka ma być dostępna w innym języku lub formacie,
proszę skontaktować się z członkiem personelu, który ją dla Państwa przygotowuje.

Dacă aveți nevoie de această broșură într-o altă limbă sau într-un format accesibil,
vă rog să discutați cu un membru al personalului să se ocupe
de acest lucru pentru dumneavoastră

如果您需要本传单的其他语言版本或无障碍格式，请联系工作人员为您安排。

إذا احتجت إلى هذه النشرة بلغة أخرى، أو بتنسيق
يسهل الوصول إليه، يرجى التحدث إلى أحد الموظفين لترتيب ذلك لك.

What is the pharynx?

The pharynx is the medical term for the upper part of the swallowing passageway.

What is a Pharyngoscopy?

This is an operation which allows us to look directly at your pharynx with a specially shaped metal tube.

Do I need the procedure?

When patients report problems with their throat, we will on occasions need to examine the pharynx in some detail. This is done to see if the pharynx is healthy or to establish the cause of any problem.

What is an Oesophagoscopy?

Oesophagoscopy is the examination of the upper part of the oesophagus (or gullet) while under a general anaesthetic. It is done to investigate problems of the gullet, such as difficult or painful swallowing

How is the procedure performed?

Your surgeon will pass a long metal tube (called an oesophago-scope) through your mouth, into your throat and upper gullet. This allows the surgeon to look at the inside of the throat and gullet and identify any problems that may be affecting your swallowing. If there are any problem areas, a small part of the lining of the gullet is taken away for laboratory examination. This is called a **biopsy**. If a narrowing in the gullet is identified, then this may need to be stretched (known as an **oesophageal dilatation**).

What can I expect following the surgery?

- It is normal to have a sore throat after the surgery and this will settle after a few days on its own. Simple analgesia such as paracetamol will help. Dissolvable ones if preferred. Always read the label.
- Some patients feel their neck is slightly stiff after the operation. Painkillers, gentle neck exercises, or a neck massage may help.
- If biopsies have been taken from the vocal cords your surgeon may recommend that you rest your voice for 24-48 hours. You can eat and drink normally following the surgery.
- If biopsies have been taken you may notice some blood in your saliva after your surgery but this should settle within a day. Your voice may be more hoarse following the surgery, especially if biopsies have been taken. Please drink plenty of water to hydrate your throat.
- You may be required to take some time off work to rest your voice, depending on your job.
- You can usually eat and drink later the same day, after you have recovered from the anaesthetic.
- In certain situations, some people may not be allowed to eat or drink for a few hours, until your surgeon is happy there have been no complications. This may be the case if a biopsy is taken from the gullet or the gullet has been stretched.