

Your Appointment is:

Time: _____

Day: _____

Date: _____



If you have any other questions,
please do not hesitate to contact
us or your referring doctor

Penrith Imaging Branches
Barium meals are conducted at the branches
below

16-18 Castlereagh Street,
Penrith 2750
Phone: (02) 4731 6977
Fax: (02) 4721 2756

Suite 4, Ground Floor
68 Derby Street,
Penrith 2750
Phone: (02) 4737 3300
Fax: (02) 4737 3301

Barium Meal

Patient
Information

The Penrith Imaging logo, consisting of the word "PENRITH" in a bold, teal, sans-serif font, followed by a circular icon containing a stylized white lightning bolt, and the word "IMAGING" in the same font, oriented vertically.

PENRITH IMAGING

What is a Barium Meal?

A Barium Meal is a special procedure that shows the anatomy and function of the oesophagus, stomach and duodenum. The examination uses special equipment that enables the radiologist to watch a television monitor whilst you drink a special fluid to outline the area being examined.

When is it used?

There are many medical situations in which a Barium Meal study can assist your diagnosis. Your doctor may already have explained your condition and why a Barium Meal is appropriate for you.

How do I make an appointment?

This examination is available at the Penrith Imaging branches shown on the back of this leaflet. Telephone or visit your nearest branch to arrange a convenient appointment.

Do I need to bring anything?

You will need to prepare for the examination by not eating, drinking or smoking for 12 hours prior to your appointment. This ensures the stomach is empty, as any food or fluid taken before the examination may give misleading results. Small sips of water may be taken with essential medication.

If you are diabetic or have a condition you believe may affect your examination, please notify us when making your appointment.

Will it take long?

This examination is usually completed within 20 minutes unless your doctor wants the small intestine examined, which may take a further 1 - 2 hours depending on the speed of the fluid through the bowel.

What happens?

You will be asked to change into a gown before the procedure. During the test, you will be given two liquids or some fizzy powder, which will produce gas in your stomach. The doctor will then ask you to drink a white mixture called barium. The combination of gas and barium will distend the walls of the stomach lining. You will be asked to turn into various positions on the x-ray table, both lying down and standing up, to allow films to be taken of all parts of the stomach and duodenum. The doctor may need to give you a small injection of Buscopan which is used to slow down the movements of your stomach to obtain better pictures. This injection may cause blurred vision for about 15 - 20 minutes.

**Please Remember to bring your referral
and any previous films with you**