

CHOICE OF ORAL CONTRAST IN SPECIFIC PATIENT POPULATIONS

- Immediate Post GI Surgery Leak Checks – Use water-soluble iodinated contrast (Omnipaque, Gastroview or Gastrografin). Barium-based contrast can be used to assess for subtle leaks only after water-soluble contrast indicates no leak.
- Possible Bowel Perforation or Bowel Fistula – Use water-soluble iodinated contrast (Omnipaque, Gastroview or Gastrografin). Barium-based contrast should not be used due to the risk of peritonitis.
- Possible Tracheoesophageal Fistula – Barium-based contrast is preferred. Only use Omnipaque if iodinated contrast is used. Do not use Gastroview or Gastrografin (hyperosmolar agents) due to the risk of pulmonary edema if these agents are aspirated.
- Aspiration or High Risk for Aspiration – Barium-based contrast is preferred. Only use Omnipaque if iodinated contrast is used. Do not use Gastroview or Gastrografin (hyperosmolar agents) due to the risk of pulmonary edema if these agents are aspirated.
- Therapeutic Enemas - Use Gastroview or Gastrografin rather than Omnipaque. Their hyperosmolarity pulls water into the bowel and causes bowel movements.