Food bolus and Foreign body in throat pathway

**Obtain history of events**
- Is this a food bolus or foreign body?
- What is the bolus/foreign body?
- Onset, preceding and post events inc choking

**Examination**
- Examine Neck, mouth/oral cavity and chest

**Red Flags**
- Airway compromise
- Neck swelling, fever
- Severe odynophagia
- Surgical emphysema

**Contact**
- 3rd on anaesthetist -784-3051
- ENT registrar through switch

**Food Bolus**

1. Request CXR & look for:
   - Mediastinal lymphadenopathy
   - Air fluid level
   - FB
2. Request Lateral neck soft tissue X-ray & look for:
   - Foreign body seen
   - Loss of cervical lordosis
   - Pre vertebral soft tissue

**Food Bolus**

- Normal X-ray
  - Try fizzy drink
  - Still symptomatic?
    - Yes
      - Gain IV access
      - Start IV N/Saline 0.9% 1000mls
    - No

- Abnormal X-ray
  - Refer to ENT SHO via 784-1506
  - ENT to decide if more appropriate for review on C25 or via ENT clinic

**Foreign body e.g. bone**

- Able to see?
  - Yes
    - Remove with Tilley forceps
    - discharge bundle document on EDIS
  - No
    - Lateral neck soft tissue X-ray & look for:
      - Foreign body
      - Loss of cervical lordosis
      - Pre vertebral soft tissue

**Abnormal X-ray**

- Unable to remove
  - Refer to ENT SHO via 784-1506
  - ENT to decide if more appropriate for review on C25 or via ENT clinic

**Normal X-ray**

- Discharge bundle – advise on return if unwell, pain returns or difficulty swallowing.
  - Document on EDIS

**Still symptomatic?**

- Yes
- No

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* If presentation related to chronic dysphagia, dysmotility, oesophagitis or known to gastro involve gastro team
** If second presentation of food bolus needs f/u gastro or ENT if discharged