

About Your Esophagogastroduodenoscopy (EGD or Gastroscopy)

- You have been scheduled for an EGD on _____ by your doctor.
- If you have been referred to the GI lab for this test, you will be called or you will get a letter to let you know about your appointment. Usually, you will hear from us in about 2 - 3 weeks after your referral has been sent to the GI lab. If you do not hear by then, call the GI Lab at 214-590-8839.
- On the day of your test, please go right to the G.I. Lab, which is on 6SS (6 South South) of Parkland Hospital. Bring your clinic card. Tell the doctor or nurse about any medicines you are taking.

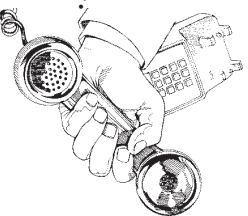


- You will be given written instructions when you are ready to leave that will tell you what to do at home after the test.

If your doctor took a biopsy or other samples from your colon:

- You will be called about the results of your biopsy, usually in 2 - 3 weeks, or else you will be scheduled for a follow-up appointment in the clinic.

If you have any questions,
call the GI Lab at
214-590-8839
and ask to speak to a nurse.



What is an EGD?

An EGD is a test where the doctor puts a small, thin, soft tube (called an endoscope) into your mouth that goes down into your stomach. This tube has a light on the end that lets the doctor see the lining of your esophagus, stomach, and duodenum (first part of your small bowel).

What should I do to get ready for the EGD?

If you are taking any **blood thinners**, call the GI Lab and talk to a nurse to find out what you should do.



- Do not eat or drink anything after midnight the night before your test.
- Tell your doctor or nurse about any medicines you are taking. If you are allergic to any medicines, please tell your nurse or bring a list. Usually, you will not take any medicine after midnight. If you take medicine for high blood pressure, seizures, or breathing medicines, take your regular dose the morning of your test with a small sip of water.



- If you take insulin, take one-half of your regular bedtime dose. **Do not** take any insulin the morning of your test. Bring all your medicines with you to the G.I. Lab on the day of your test.



- Wear comfortable, loose clothes. Leave jewelry and other valuables at home or with a relative or friend.
- Plan to have someone drive you home after the test. You will be sleepy from the medicine. That person can wait in the G.I. Lab waiting room during the test, or the staff will call them for you after your test is over.

What happens during the test?

- You will change into a hospital gown when you arrive.
- A nurse will take your blood pressure and pulse and ask you a few questions about your health.
- The nurse will start an IV in a vein in your arm. The doctor will give you medicine through the IV to help you relax and feel comfortable during the test.
- You will have to take out your dentures and remove your glasses. The room will be dark during the test. Your nurse will check your heart rhythm, oxygen level, and blood pressure during the test.

- Your nurse will help you to turn onto your left side.
- Your nurse will give you medicine through your IV to help you relax. Once the medicine is working, the doctor will help you swallow the endoscope. You will be able to do this because the medicine will help you relax. The endoscope will not get in the way of your breathing. The nurse will suction any saliva (spit) out of your mouth and throat during the test.

Sometimes the doctor will decide to take a tiny piece of tissue (biopsy) or fluid from your stomach during the test. These will be sent to the laboratory. You will not feel pain. The doctor may also choose to take pictures of your stomach.

What happens after the EGD?

- As soon as the doctor is finished, the endoscope will be taken out. The nurse will check your blood pressure and pulse, and take you to the Recovery Room on a stretcher. You will be sleepy after the test. You will stay there until you are awake, usually 30 minutes to 1 hour. Your doctor or nurse will tell you about your test results before you go home. **Do not** drive till the day after your EGD.
- If you are staying in the hospital, you will be taken back to your room by stretcher or wheelchair. Your doctor will visit with you later in the evening to tell you about your test results when you are more awake.

