

Upper Endoscopy

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. Will the procedure be performed under anesthesia?

- Unless your doctor or nurse tells you otherwise, your procedure will be performed under moderate sedation. A peripheral IV will be inserted and two medications will be administered (Versed and Fentanyl); these will make you very sleepy/drowsy during the procedure which is why you need to have a capable adult accompany you home.

2. What if I have a cold?

- If you have a mild cold with no fever, it is okay to take Tylenol and other over the counter cold medications and proceed with the preparation and the procedure. However, if you have a fever or more severe symptoms, it may be safer to call and reschedule the procedure. Please call the office to further discuss.

3. Which medications should I take on the day of the procedure?

- See Medication section in the beginning of this document for information regarding diabetic and blood thinner medications. All other medications can be taken up until 4 hours prior to your arrival time, or after the procedure.

4. What if I have removable dental work?

- Please remove any loose dental work prior to the procedure

5. Pregnant or breastfeeding

- Please let us know if you are or could be pregnant because, except in very rare cases, an endoscopy should not be performed.
- If you are breastfeeding, you may resume breastfeeding once you are awake, stable, and alert after your procedure unless otherwise instructed by your physician.

6. Will I have discomfort after the procedure?

- Typically, no, however, some people can have a mild sore throat after the procedure, but this should be tolerable and should resolve after 1-2 days. For any severe or intolerable symptoms, please contact our office or go the emergency room.

7. What can I expect in terms of recovery?

- The sedation medication used during your procedure will help you feel relaxed and calm. There is a possibility you may remember parts of your procedure, but many do not. After your procedure, you may feel weak, tired, or unsteady on your feet. You may also have trouble concentrating or short-term memory loss, but these symptoms should go away in 12-24 hours. For these reasons, do not drive, make important decisions, drink alcohol, operate machinery, or return to work for the rest of the day. We strongly recommend that you go home and rest. You may return to normal activity the following day unless instructed otherwise by your physician.