

**IMAGING/BIOPSIES**

Photographs/videos of the stomach/intestine may be taken as part of your care, in order to diagnose or exclude particular diseases. These will be kept in your chart. Biopsies (tiny samples of tissue) may also be taken. These may be retained by the hospital for further testing and/or education and research in accordance with hospital procedures. Patient confidentiality will be maintained at all times.

**FOLLOWING THE EXAMINATION**

- Further tests may be requested by the doctor doing your test. These may be completed on the same day of your examination or a future appointment date may be given.
- If you stay awake for the test you may go home as soon as follow up instructions have been arranged.
- If you have been sedated you will be observed in the recovery area until the effects have worn off, the I-V line has been removed from your arm and a snack given. Following sedation, you **must be collected on discharge** as you are **not allowed to drive** or travel home unaccompanied, operate machinery, sign legal documents or drink alcohol for 24 hours.
- Prior to leaving the unit a doctor or nurse will explain the results of the procedure to you and any further relevant documentation will be given to you.

**Contact Details for Endoscopy unit:**  
**If you require any other information or if you cannot attend for your scheduled appointment, please contact the department.**  
**Phone 01- 6466415/64664143 (Mon-Fri 08.00-17.00).**  
 Developed by: Endoscopy Unit,  
 Connolly Hospital, Blanchardstown, Dublin 15.  
 (With thanks to Dr G.Doherty, SVUH).  
 (Revised May 2019).  
 Review date: May 2020)

Name .....
Address.....
.....
HCRN.....
DOB.....
Endoscopist.....

**Consent Form**

I.....

**Guardian of**.....

I have read the information contained in this leaflet and I understand what is involved in the proposed test. I know I will have the opportunity to ask questions before the procedure.

I understand the risks and benefits involved in the procedure. I understand that sedation may be required and that any other procedure found to be necessary will be performed. I understand that blood/blood products may, very rarely, be necessary, and I agree to receive these if needed.

I am aware that tissue samples may be taken if necessary, and that these may be retained for future testing and/or education and research.

**I consent to the Gastroscopy procedure**

**Signed**.....  
(Patient)

**Signed**.....  
(Guardian)

**I verified with the patient understands the information on this procedure.**

**Signed**.....  
(Endoscopist)

**Print Name**.....

**Date**.....



**GASTROSCOPY**

**CONNOLLY HOSPITAL  
BLANCHARDSTOWN**

**This information leaflet and Consent Form is intended for patients and their relatives.  
We hope that you will find it helpful.**

## CONSENT

Please read the information contained in this leaflet. You are asked to sign the attached consent form to show that you understand what is involved in the procedure, and **bring it with you** on the day of your test. The doctor performing the test will answer any questions you may have. **You may change your mind about having the test at any time before the procedure.**

## WHAT IS A GASTROSCOPY?

Also known as an OGD, this is an examination of the oesophagus (gullet), the stomach and the duodenum (the first part of the intestine). A thin flexible tube is passed through the mouth.

## WHAT SHOULD I DO TO PREPARE FOR THIS TEST?

- You need to fast (*nothing to eat or drink*) before the test; exact details will be given to you with your appointment.
- If you require, or wish to have sedation for the test, you must be collected afterwards.
- Please bring the phone number of a relative or friend who will collect you.
- If your doctor has given you a referral letter, please bring it with you.
- Your appointment time is approximate-tests can vary in length and unfortunately unforeseen delays do occur. We appreciate your patience and understanding.
- Please bring a list of your medications with you.
- If you have private medical insurance, please bring the details with you.

## MEDICATIONS (Tablets)

You should continue to take essential medication. You may take your medications on the morning of the OGD with a small amount of water.

If you are taking ANTICOAGULANTS (eg Warfarin/ Plavix) you need to discuss this when the test is being organised. Do **not** stop these medications without clear instructions from a doctor. If you are unsure, contact the endoscopy unit (see contact numbers below).

If you have DIABETES you should contact the endoscopy unit for advice before you attend for the test. (See contact numbers below).

## RISKS

Gastroscopy is a safe test. There are some risks/complications which include (but are not limited to) the following: Perforation (tear), Haemorrhage (bleeding) and Reaction to medication.

Complications may require urgent treatment including surgery (operation) and can carry a risk to life/health.

## BENEFITS

Gastroscopy is the best test to look at the lining of the oesophagus, stomach and duodenum and allows the doctor to take a biopsy to look at any abnormality in more detail.

## SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

If you use a wheelchair or have a physical or any other disability please contact us in advance of your procedure so that we can ensure you receive appropriate supports.

## SEDATION

- You may choose to be awake for the test, where you receive a local anaesthetic spray to numb your throat.
- If you choose to be awake, you will be able to go home almost immediately after the test.
- You may choose to receive sedation for the test. This is **not** the same as a general anaesthetic and some patients may remember things about the test. Every effort will be made to keep you comfortable during the procedure.

## PROCEDURE

A nurse will be with you throughout the examination

- If staying awake, a throat spray will be given to numb your throat.
- If receiving sedation a plastic intravenous tube will be inserted in your arm.
- You will be asked to lie on your left side for the test.
- A plastic mouth piece will be placed between your teeth, which keep your mouth slightly open to enable the tube to be passed. If you have any loose teeth, there is a risk of these being damaged during the test but every effort is made to avoid this.
- Air is put into the stomach through the gastroscopy tube to allow a better view of the stomach and it could make you feel a little bloated; some air will be removed towards the end of the test, otherwise it will pass naturally.
- You will be able to breathe normally throughout the procedure.
- The test usually lasts for about 5 minutes.