

IMAGING/BIOPSIES

Photographs/videos of the 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 following test and instructions.
- If you have **been sedated** you will be observed in the recovery area until the effects have worn off, and the I-V line has been removed. Furthermore, you must not drive, operate machinery, sign legal documents or drink alcohol for 24 hours. You **must be collected on discharge** as you are **not allowed to drive** or travel home unaccompanied.
- 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 for any reason you cannot attend for your scheduled appointment, please contact:
Phone 01-6466415/64664143. (Mon-Fri 08.00-17.00).

Developed by: Endoscopy Unit, Connolly Hospital,
 (With thanks to Dr G Doherty, SVUH).
 (Revised : May 2019 Review May 2020).

Consent Form

I.....

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

Guardian of.....

I/We have read the information contained in this leaflet and I understand what is involved in the proposed procedure. 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 Sigmoidoscopy procedure

Signed.....
(Patient)

Date.....

Signed.....
(Guardian)

I have verified with the patient that he/she understands the information on this procedure.

Signed.....
(Endoscopist)

Print Name
Date



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive



SIGMOIDOSCOPY

**CONNOLLY HOSPITAL
BLANCHARDSTOWN**

This leaflet and Consent Form is intended for the patients and their relatives. We hope you 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 SIGMOIDOSCOPY?

A sigmoidoscopy is a visual examination of the lower portion of the bowel. A thin flexible tube is passed into the rectum.

WHAT SHOULD I DO TO PREPARE FOR THIS TEST?

- In order to obtain a clear view, your colon (bowel) must be empty. To achieve this you will be given an enema after you arrive into the hospital.
- You will be provided with a gown; please bring a dressing gown and slippers with you.
- If you require sedation for the test you must **be fasting(6 hours from food and 4 hours from liquids)** and collected afterwards. **Most procedures are performed without sedation.**
- During the test, air will be put into your colon which allows the doctor a better view, and this is removed or passed at the end of the procedure.
- You may feel some cramps in your stomach and pressure from the tube during the test- this is normal and will soon pass.
- There may be other members of the hospital multidisciplinary team present during your procedure.

- You will **not be allowed to drive** or travel unaccompanied if you have had sedation.
- Please bring the phone number of a relative or friend who can collect you.
- Your appointment time is approximate-tests can vary in length and unfortunately unforeseen delays do occur. We appreciate your patience and understanding
- If you have the following documents ,please bring them along with you:
 - (a)Your doctor's referral letter.
 - (b) Private medical insurance.
 - (c) A list of your medications.

MEDICATIONS (Tablets)

You should continue to take essential medication. If you are taking ANTICOAGULANTS (eg Warfarin/Plavix) you need to discuss this when the test is being organised. **Iron tablets should be stopped for one week prior to the examination.** If you have diabetes you should contact the endoscopy unit for advice before you attend for the test.

RISKS

Sigmoidoscopy is a safe test .There is 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.

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 support

BENEFITS

Sigmoidoscopy is the best test to look at the lower bowel and allows the doctor to take a biopsy to look at any abnormality in more detail. If problems such as polyps are identified, these will be removed by the doctor if it is judged safe to do so. Removing polyps slightly increases the risk of the procedure, but reduces the risk of developing bowel cancer in the future. Sigmoidoscopy is not a perfect test, and very occasionally things such as polyps or cancer can be missed.

SEDATION

The procedure is often performed without sedation. However, sedation may be given if your doctor judges it to be necessary. Sedation is much safer than a general anaesthetic. Some patients may remember things about the test. Every effort will be made to keep you comfortable during the procedure.

PROCEDURE

- The test may be performed either with or without sedation
- A nurse will be with you throughout the examination
- If receiving sedation a plastic intravenous tube will be inserted in your arm and your pulse and oxygen levels will be monitored.
- You will be asked to lie on your left side
- An examination of your rectum will be carried out.
- The tube (camera) will be passed through the rectum into the lower part of the colon. The test usually takes between 5- 15 minutes to complete.

