GASTROSCOPY (EGD)

Your Gastroscopy is scheduled for:

DATE ________________________ ARRIVAL TIME __________________

___NSMC Salem Hospital
Please arrive at Wheelock 5 entrance to check in for the Endoscopy Suite.

___ Mass General/North Shore Center for Outpatient Care in Danvers
Please check in at the Surgical Center.

A gastroscopy (also known as endoscopy, or EGD) is a very accurate examination of the esophagus, stomach, and first part of the small intestine. This is accomplished with the use of a gastroscope, a thin, lighted flexible instrument which is passed through the mouth. You may be asked to gargle a local anesthetic beforehand.

In preparation for the gastroscopy, an intravenous line will be started. After you have met the physician and signed a consent form, sedative medication will be administered through the intravenous. You will be drowsy during the procedure which takes approximately fifteen minutes. Most patients tolerate the examination very well and the medication often makes you forget the entire procedure. This is a common and very safe examination with extremely rare potential complications such as bleeding, perforation or reaction to medications.

___Gastroscopy scheduled before 12 noon

Nothing by mouth after midnight the night before.

___ Gastroscopy scheduled at or after 12 noon

You may have a clear liquid breakfast before 8am. Then nothing by mouth after 8am.
GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

- You can take morning medications with a sip or two of water only. Otherwise, nothing by mouth for 4 hours before your gastroscopy.
- If you have **cardiac stent, history of stroke or TIA** (transient ischemic attack), then **CONTINUE TAKING YOUR ASPIRIN**.
- If you are on **Plavix, Coumadin, Pradaxa, Xarelto, or Eliquis**, then make sure we have seen you in the office to decide how to handle these medications.
- If you are on **other anti-inflammatory drugs** such as Advil, Motrin, or Aleve, please **STOP TAKING THEM 5 days before your procedure**.
- If you are on an **oral-diabetic medication**, do NOT take it the morning of the test.
- If you are on **Insulin or blood thinners**, please make sure our office has given you specific instructions at least a week in advance.
- If you have sleep apnea and have a **CPAP machine**, you must bring it with you for endoscopy.
- Please bring a list of your medications and allergies with you.
- **You should make arrangements to be accompanied by another adult to drive you home after the gastroscopy.** The recovery room nurses will call your ride so that you can be picked up about an hour after the completion of the procedure (your ride must be available for a window of 2-3 hours after your procedure). **Hospital policy does not allow you to go home by yourself even on GLSS, The Ride, public transportation or by taxi.** You should not drive a car, operate machinery, or make business decisions for the remainder of the day since the effects of the sedatives may linger for several hours.

If you do not receive a confirmation call from your doctor’s office at least 3 days before your procedure, please call yourself to confirm the appointment. If you have any questions about your preparation or procedure, please do not hesitate to call us at 978.741.4171.