

GASTROSCOPY INSTRUCTIONS

You are being scheduled for a gastroscopy. Your procedure will be done in the Hudson Hospital Procedure Center. The surgery scheduler will be contacting you to set up a date and time for your exam.

What is a Gastroscopy?

A gastroscopy is an examination of the esophagus, stomach and duodenum using a flexible tube (endoscope) the size of your finger. This tube is passed through your mouth and advanced slowly through the areas to be examined. The procedure usually takes 15 to 30 minutes.

Preparation for the Procedure:

- DO NOT take aspirin containing products for five (5) days before your gastroscopy.
- DO NOT take Ibuprofen for two (2) days before your gastroscopy.
- If you are taking a blood thinning medication such as coumadin, and have not received instructions, please contact your family physician.
- Continue all of your regular medications.
- Take nothing by mouth after midnight the day before your procedure. You should continue your regular medications unless instructed otherwise with a small sip of water the morning of your procedure.

You will NOT be able to drive home from this procedure. We must discharge you in the care of a responsible adult. Please make arrangements for a ride (not taxi or van unless you are accompanied) or your procedure will be canceled.

The day of the procedure:

- Check in at the hospital information desk at the designated time to register.
- You will be taken to the Procedure Center where you will remove clothing from the waist up and put on a hospital gown. Please leave jewelry and valuables at home.
- A nurse will ask you about your medical history and have you sign a consent form.
- An intravenous (IV) line will be started.
- When your physician is ready, you will be taken to the procedure room.

The Procedure:

Your blood pressure, heart rate and oxygen saturation will be monitored for the duration of the procedure. You will be given medication through your IV to help you relax. The physician will numb the back of your throat, and pass a gastroscope through your mouth into your esophagus, stomach and duodenum. You will have no difficulty breathing around the tube. Specimen can be obtained through the gastroscope. The specimen collection is painless.

After the Procedure:

After your gastroscopy, the physician will explain the results to you. If a biopsy has been performed the results will not be available for 7-10 days. You will be contacted about the results. You will be monitored for 30 to 60 minutes in the procedure center before being released to go home. **You will be receiving a mild sedative, so you MUST bring someone with you to drive you home. YOU CANNOT DRIVE YOURSELF HOME!** Before you leave the nurse will give you a list of home care instructions to follow. With the sedation you receive, you will be unable to drive for the rest of that day.

Thank you for choosing Hudson Hospital. If you have any questions after reading this brochure, please feel free to contact us at (715) 531-6520. If you need to cancel or change your appointment time, please call the scheduling office at (715) 531-6425.