

ON: _____
ARRIVE: _____ AM/PM
AT: _____
FOR YOUR _____ : _____ test

ENDOSCOPIC RETORGRADE CHOLANGIOPANCREATOGRAPHY (ERCP)

WHAT IS ERCP?

ERCP is a procedure by which a flexible, lighted fiberoptic tube is passed through the mouth, into the stomach, and then into the duodenum. A small tube is passed through a tiny muscular opening that leads into the pancreatic and common bile ducts. Dye is injected through the cannula and x-rays are taken in order to study the ductal systems of the pancreas, bile ducts, or gallbladder, depending upon which is being evaluated.

WHAT ARE THE REASONS FOR PERFORMING ERCP?

ERCP is performed primarily to identify and/or correct a problem if the bile ducts or pancreas. An abnormality suspected by clinical history, blood tests or x-ray can be confirmed and studied in detail. Many times a problem can be treated and relieved.

WHAT PREPARATION IS REQUIRED

The best possible examination requires the stomach be completely empty. You should have nothing to eat or drink after midnight (including water) prior to the examination.

You will need to make arrangements for someone to bring you and to stay in the building while you are there AND who will provide a ride home, once you are discharged. **NO DRIVING, NO ALCOHOL, NO STRENUOUS ACTIVITY** the remainder of the day.

WHAT SHOULD YOU EXPECT DURING THE PROCEDURE?

The ERCP is performed in an x-ray room. The nurse will help position you on the x-ray table. You will be given IV sedation to you are comfortable throughout the procedure. Your throat will be sprayed with a numbing solution.

WHAT HAPPENS AFTER ERCP?

You will remain at the out-patient department until most of the effects of the sedation have worn off. You may feel bloated and might have a soft bowel movement because of the air and dye that were introduced during the examination.

You will be able to resume your normal diet after the examination, unless otherwise instructed. The physician will be in to see you before you go home to tell you the results of the procedure. You may not remember this because of the sedation. However, whoever is there to take you home can listen to what the physician has to say.

ARE THERE ANY COMPLICATIONS FROM ERCP?

ERCP is safe and is associated with a very low risk of complication when performed by physicians who have been specially trained and are experienced in this highly specialized procedure. Complications can occur but are uncommon.

EASTLAND SURGICENTER ENDOSCOPY

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR PROCEDURE

1. We are located at the Eastland Medical Plaza II. The address is 1505 Eastland Drive, Suite 2000 in Bloomington. Please park in the lower level lot near Prompt Care. Proceed into the Eastland Medical Plaza II and take the elevator to the Second Floor. Take a quick right and you will see the Endoscopy and Pain Management Center on the glass door. Please enter and register with the receptionist. If receptionist is not there, use the phone on the wall and dial 4522 for assistance.
2. You must have a responsible person drive you home upon discharge. Prior to your procedure, your ride will be called and confirmed. If there is not a confirmed ride, your procedure will be cancelled.
3. Please leave money, jewelry, and other valuables at home.
4. Please bring your insurance card.
5. Please arrive 1 hour prior to your exam time, unless otherwise noted by your pre-admission nurse. If you or your physician change your date and/or time, please plan your home preparation time and arrival time accordingly.
6. Please bring a list of any medications you are currently taking, including over the counter medications, as needed medications, vitamins and any herbal medications. Bring inhalers with you. You will also be asked if you have any allergies to any medications and what kind of reaction you had to them.
7. There will be an IV started on admission. This is used for sedation and any necessary antibiotics ordered by your physician.
8. You may have blood drawn for lab tests if ordered by your physician.
9. Vital signs will be taken, at regular intervals, by the nursing and tech staff during your stay.
10. You will be in the exam room approximately 30-40 minutes. You will return to recovery before discharge. Average length of recovery lasts 30-40 minutes, although this largely depends on the individual patient and procedure performed. Liver biopsy patients will stay for approximately 3 to 4 hours after their procedure. You will be discharged when your vital signs are within normal limits and you are able to walk out or be escorted out by wheelchair. It is recommended that you return home to rest and that someone is with you for the rest of the day.
11. After your procedure, your doctor will discuss findings, diet, medication, and lifestyle changes when applicable. We recommend someone be with you at this time since you will still be under the influence of the sedation and may not remember all of the details. Nursing staff will write this all out for you and you will receive a copy of the discharge instructions to take home with you.
12. We will look forward to seeing you. Please call us at (309) 662-3311, extension 4522 if you have any further questions.

Please feel free to ask for our assistance at any time to make your stay more comfortable. We, as the staff of the Endoscopy Department, would like to make your visit with us as enjoyable and dignified as possible.