DIGESTIVE HEALTH CENTER

EGD Information

What is an esophagogastroduodenoscopy (EGD)?

An **EGD** is an examination of your esophagus, stomach, and duodenum (the first part of your small intestine).

This procedure allows your physician to examine your esophagus, stomach, and duodenum. This procedure may be done to explain findings on previous X-rays, to help diagnose and treat gastrointestinal (GI) symptoms such as a swallowing disorder, to see why someone is not responding to medication, or to identify the cause of anemia.

For the best possible examination, your stomach must be empty. You will be given instructions on when you need to stop eating and drinking. It is important to follow the instructions. If your stomach is not empty, you may be asked to reschedule the procedure.

When you arrive, the nurse will get a brief history. Your vital signs will be checked. You will be asked to sign a consent form authorizing your physician to perform the EGD. An intravenous needle (IV) will be placed before the procedure.

You will be taken to the endoscopy suite. The nurse will monitor your heart rate, blood pressure, and oxygen level during the procedure. You will be asked to remove any dentures or partial plates. You will be asked to lie on your left side. The nurse will give you medication through the IV that will make you sleepy and relaxed. You may receive oxygen because of the sedatives. Your nurse may numb your mouth and throat with a spray. This will prevent discomfort and gagging.

When you are properly relaxed, your physician will start the procedure. You may be asked to swallow as the gastroscope is inserted. This will open the passage in your throat to allow the tube to enter your esophagus.

The tube does not interfere with your breathing. If saliva accumulates in your mouth, the nurse may suction the saliva from your mouth with a small tube.

You will be asked to lie still and rest during the procedure as your physician examines your esophagus, stomach, and duodenum. You will be drowsy and comfortable during the exam. You may have a feeling of fullness in your abdomen as your physician injects a moderate amount of air, which expands the stomach to allow for better visualization.

Your physician may take a biopsy (small specimen of tissue) through the gastroscope. You will not be able to feel this being done. The exam usually takes about 15 minutes to perform. Many people sleep during part or all of the exam because of the sedatives. After the procedure, you will be taken to the recovery area. You will feel drowsy and may sleep for a short period of time. You may feel bloated due to the air used during the procedure. It is important to pass the air. You will be given something to drink after the numbing spray has worn off. The nurse will monitor your blood pressure and keep an eye on you.

You must bring someone to drive you home or your procedure may be rescheduled. Before you leave, your physician will discuss the findings with you and/or your driver. Please ask a family member or friend to remain available to speak with your physician and assist you to their vehicle.

DIGESTIVE HEALTH CENTER
DigestiveHealthCenter.com

1015 S. Hackett Rd., Waterloo, Iowa 50701 **319.234.5990**

Digestive Health Center complies with applicable federal civil rights laws and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex.
SPANISH : ATENCIÓN: Si habla español, tiene a su disposición servicios gratuitos de asistencia lingüística.
CHINESE : 注意：如果您使用繁體中文, 您可以免費獲得語言援助服務。請致電

Rev. 7-07-26