

Patency Capsule Test

How to prepare and what to expect

Your patency capsule test is scheduled for _____, _____, at _____ a.m. / p.m.
DAY DATE TIME

How to Prepare

1 Day Before	On Test Day	After You Swallow the Patency Capsule	Day After the Test
Date:	Date:	Date:	Date:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Have only liquids for lunch and dinner Liquids include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Soup - Yogurt - Pudding - Broth - Coffee, tea - Jell-O - Soda pop and other drinks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do not eat or drink anything after midnight the night before your test As soon as you get up in the morning, take your morning medicines with water 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For 4 hours after you swallow the capsule, drink only sips of water After 8 hours, you may have a light snack such as a granola bar Call the clinic right away if you have: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Abdominal pain - Nausea - Vomiting You cannot have an MRI for 3 days after you swallow the patency capsule 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> About 30 hours after you swallow the patency capsule, you must have an X-ray in the Radiology department on the 2nd floor of the hospital (take the Pacific elevator) Some people need to have a 2nd X-ray done the next day

How to Find Us

Digestive Disease Center

University of Washington Medical Center
Surgery Pavilion, 3rd Floor
1959 N.E. Pacific Street
Seattle, WA 98195
206.598.4377

From N.E. Pacific St., follow the signs to the Emergency Room. At the stop sign, enter the Surgery Pavilion Parking Garage on the left.

After parking in the garage, take the elevator to the 3rd floor. Turn right into the Digestive Disease Center.

A map and parking rates are included with this handout.

What can I expect?

This test is a safe way for your doctor to find out if an object the size of the patency capsule can pass through your intestine. For this test:

- You will swallow a capsule that is about the size of a vitamin pill. The capsule is coated to make it easy to swallow.
- The capsule contains a tiny tag that shows up on X-ray exams. If the capsule leaves your body before it dissolves, it means that small objects can safely move through your intestines.
- If your intestine has narrow places and the capsule cannot pass through, it will dissolve into small pieces after about 30 hours. These small pieces will pass easily out of your body.
- We will take an X-ray 30 hours after you swallow the capsule. This X-ray will show whether the capsule is still inside your body.

Questions?

Your questions are important. Please call if you have questions or concerns about your patency capsule test.

Weekdays between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., call the Digestive Disease Center, 206.598.4377.

After hours and on holidays and weekends, call the Community Care Line at Harborview Medical Center, 206.744.2500.