

Upper Endoscopy (EGD)

How to prepare and what to expect

Your EGD procedure is scheduled for _____, _____, at _____
DAY DATE TIME

How to Prepare

7 Days Before	5 Days Before	On Procedure Day
Date:	Date:	Date:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If you take blood-thinning medicines such as Coumadin (warfarin) or Plavix (clopidogrel): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Call the doctor who prescribed these medicines. - Tell the doctor that you are having an upper endoscopy (EGD), and the date of your procedure. - Ask for special instructions for your blood-thinning medicines. • Cancellations: If you need to cancel or reschedule your procedure, please call 206._____. • Transportation: You must arrange for a responsible adult to take you home after your procedure. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - You cannot drive on the day of your EGD. You cannot take a taxi or bus unless you have a responsible adult to ride with you. - Your test may be cancelled if you arrive at the hospital without a responsible adult to drive you home. - Your driver must be in our waiting room at the time of your discharge, about 2 hours after your appointment time. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If you have diabetes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Call the provider who manages your diabetes medicines. - Tell the provider that you are having an upper endoscopy (EGD), and the date of your procedure. - Ask for special instructions for your diabetes medicines. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not eat anything after midnight the night before your procedure. • As soon as you get up in the morning, take your morning medicines with water. • Until 2 hours before your procedure, you can drink clear fluids (fluids you can see through). These include juice (apple, grape, or cranberry), broth, black coffee, tea without milk, sports drinks, soda, or Jell-O (green or yellow only). • Leave valuables at home, or keep them safe with your driver or escort <p>What to bring to your appointment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Your driver or escort • A list of all medicines you currently take • Photo ID, insurance care, and co-pay, if needed <p>At the hospital:</p> <p>You will need to remove all jewelry and piercings before the procedure. If possible, leave these at home.</p>

Locations and Parking

Maps and parking rates are included with this handout.

Harborview Medical Center

GI Endoscopy Suite
Maleng Building, 8th Floor
410 Ninth Ave., Seattle, WA 98104
206.744.3519

Parking 24 hours a day, 7 days a week in the Ninth and Jefferson Garage (P2) off James and Terry.

University of Washington Medical Center

Digestive Health Center
Surgery Pavilion, 3rd Floor
1959 N.E. Pacific St., 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 Health Center.

Eastside Specialty Center

3100 Northup Way, Bellevue, WA 98004
425.646.7777
Free parking on site.

Questions?

Your questions are important. Please call if you have questions or concerns. Weekdays between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., call the clinic where your EGD is scheduled. After hours and on weekends and holidays, call the Community Care Line at Harborview, 206.744.2500.

What is an upper endoscopy?

An upper endoscopy lets your doctor look at the lining of your *esophagus* (the tube that goes from your mouth to your stomach), your stomach, and the first part of your small intestine.

During the exam, a flexible tube, about the width of a little finger, will be placed into your mouth and down into your stomach and small intestine. This tube will not get in the way of your breathing.

What to Expect

- You will receive a *sedative* (relaxation medicine) to help you relax. This medicine will be given to you through a small tube called an *intravenous* (IV) line placed into one of your veins.
- Most people fall asleep. But, if you do not fall asleep and are feeling some discomfort, we will do our best to help you be comfortable.
- If needed, your doctor may take small tissue samples called *biopsies*. You will not feel this because there are no nerve endings in that layer of tissue.
- Your doctor may also *dilate* (expand) narrow areas or stop bleeding inside your small intestine.
- This test will take only about 15 minutes, but you will be in the hospital longer than that, to allow time for you to prepare for the exam and recover afterward.

How do I get the test results?

When you wake up after the procedure, your doctor will talk with you about the results. If your results are not ready right after the exam, we will tell you when you can expect to receive them.