

INFORMED CONSENT FOR GASTROSCOPY AND POSSIBLE DILATION

Explanation of Gastroscopy Procedure

Direct visualization of the digestive tract with lighted instruments is referred to as Gastroscopy. The following information is presented to help you understand the reason for and the possible risks of the procedure. You will be given medication to numb your throat and medication in the vein to make you sleepy (moderate sedation), however, some discomfort may be experienced during the procedure. This procedure involves examination of the lining of the upper GI tract (esophagus or food tube; stomach; and duodenum or small intestine). If an abnormality is seen or suspected, a small portion of tissue (biopsy) may be removed or brushed. These samples are viewed by a pathologist under a microscope to determine if abnormal cells are present.

Explanation of Dilation

Dilation is the passing of progressively larger, soft, flexible tubes (dilators) through the mouth and down the esophagus (food or swallowing tube), stretching any narrowed portion or stricture. This opens the esophagus to a more normal size and allows food and liquids to pass to the stomach without difficulty.

Principal Risk and Complications of Gastroscopy

Gastroscopy is generally a low risk procedure. However, all of the complications below are possible and your physician will discuss their frequency with you. You must ask your physician if you have any unanswered questions about your procedure.

1. **PERFORATION:** Passage of the instrument or dilation may result in an injury to the upper GI tract with possible leakage of stomach contents into the body cavity. If this occurs, surgery to close the leak may be required.
2. **BLEEDING:** Bleeding, if it occurs, is usually a complication of a biopsy. Management of this complication may consist only of careful observation, but may require blood transfusions, hospitalization or possibly a surgical operation.
3. **MEDICATIONS:** You may have an allergic reaction to the medication or you may experience increased sedation. If this occurs, medication can be given to reverse the effects of the medications. Medications used for sedation may irritate the vein. This causes a red, painful swelling of the vein and surrounding tissue. The area could become infected. Discomfort in the area may persist for several weeks to several months.
4. **OTHER:** This includes complications from other diseases you may already have. You must inform your physician of all your allergies and medical problems. Death is a rare and infrequent complication.

Alternatives of Gastroscopy and Dilation

X-ray studies may be an alternative, but x-rays do not allow for direct visualization of tissue nor do they allow for removal of tissue specimens or polyps if necessary. Surgery to the esophagus may possibly be an alternative for dilation in some cases.

I certify that I understand the information regarding GASTROSCOPY. I have been fully informed of the risks and possible complications of my procedure. I hereby authorize and permit «USName» and whomever he may designate as his/her assistant to perform the Gastroscopy. If any unforeseen condition arises during the procedure calling for additional procedures or treatments, I authorize him/her to do whatever he deems advisable. If surgery is required, I realize I must be transferred to another facility for this. I am aware that the practice of medicine is not an exact science and I acknowledge that no guarantees have been made to me concerning the result of this Gastroscopy.

Date	Time	Signed by patient or legally authorized person
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Date	Time	«USName»
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«PName»

«PNumber»

«PDOB» «USName»