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Gastroenterology

DIPLOMATE OF AMERICAN BOARD OF GASTROENTEROLOGY

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INSTRUCTIONS FOR UPPER ENDOSCOPY

Date: _____ Preregistration # _____

***Please register with designated facility at least 72 hours before test.

***If you cannot make this appointment or have any questions, please call our office to cancel or reschedule. Kindly give the office 48-72 hours notice so that we may accommodate other patients.

How do I get ready for this test?

*Don't take any ASA, Aspirin containing products (Advil, Motrin, Aleve, Ibuprofen, Vioxx, Celebrex) 4-5 days before the test. Tylenol is ok.

*If you are diabetic, you WILL NOT take the usual dosage of insulin or oral diabetic medication. Check with the doctor for changes in your dosages the day before and the day of the procedure.

*You may eat dinner the night before the test, but DO NOT EAT OR DRINK ANYTHING AFTER MIDNIGHT.

*Blood thinners like Coumadin, Plavix, or Aggrenox will need to be discontinued, but do not unless instructed as how to do so by the doctor.

*If you are on blood pressure pills, heart pills, seizure pills, or nerve pills take them the morning of the test as scheduled with a sip of water only prior to you test.

*Inform your doctor if you were born with any valvular heart disease, have an artificial heart valve or history of heart valve infection.

*You CANNOT drive home after the test. You must plan for a responsible person to escort you to and from the test because of the medications you receive for sedation. The person can be your spouse, relative, or friend.

What is the test?

You are scheduled for a test called an Upper Endoscopy. During this test you will swallow a bendable tube that has a light on the end of it. This will let the doctor visualize the inside of your esophagus, stomach, and the first part of your small bowel or intestine. Sometimes small samples of tissue, called biopsies are taken; but you will not feel this.

What will happen during the test?

* The back of your throat will be sprayed with some numbing medicine and a bite block will be inserted into your mouth. The nurse will put needles in your hand or arm to administer the sedative. This medication will help you relax during the test.

****Possible risk of Upper Gastrointestinal Endoscopy****

Before starting the procedure the physician will place a bite block, a small circular plastic device that prevents the patient from biting the instrument, between the upper and lower teeth. If the patient has caps or crowns these may become loosened or even break during the biting down process. This occurs infrequently, but it is a possibility. Neither the physician nor the center will be responsible for any damages related to dental injury.

What will happen after the test?

*You may be sleepy after the test because of the sedation.

*You will be under observation approximately 30 minutes to an hour after the test.

*Even though the doctor will talk to you about test results after the procedure when you are completely awake you may not recall this. Call the office to schedule a follow appointment within 2-3 weeks to discuss test results.

Insurance and Policy Issues

While we are happy to pre-certify and file with your insurance company; all deductible/co-insurance/co-pays must be paid as advised and are due two days before scheduled procedure.

Separate facility charges may apply. Kindly call our office in advance to avoid any misunderstanding regarding these issues.