

Upper GI Endoscopy (EGD)

Upper GI endoscopy -or esophagogastroduodenoscopy (EGD) is a visual examination of the lining of your esophagus, stomach and the first part of your intestine. This is performed by passing a small, long flexible telescope through your mouth, under sedation. The doctor will be able to look for any abnormalities which may be present. If necessary, small tissue samples (biopsies) can be taken during the examination (painlessly) for detailed laboratory analysis. Some treatments can also be done through the endoscope. These include stretching (dilating) narrowed areas of the esophagus, stomach or duodenum, removing polyps and swallowed objects, and treatment of bleeding vessels and ulcers by internal injection, or application of heat (using electrical diathermy, laser or heater probes).

Preparation: Your stomach must be empty, so do not eat or drink anything after midnight. You must take prescription medication as usual, use only small sips of water. Do not take antacids.

What will happen: The doctor and /or nurse will explain the procedure and answer your questions. Please tell them if you have had any other endoscopy examination, or any allergies or bad reactions to medications. You will be asked to sign a consent form, giving your permission to have the procedure performed. You will be asked to put on a hospital gown, and to remove your eyeglasses, contact lenses and dentures. A local anesthetic will be sprayed onto your throat, to make it numb. You may be given medication by injection through a vein to make you sleepy and relaxed. While in a comfortable position on your left side, the doctor will pass the endoscope through your mouth, and down your throat. A guard will be placed to protect your teeth. The instrument will not interfere with your breathing, nor cause any pain. The examination takes 10-15 minutes.

Afterwards: You will remain in the clinic area for up to 1 hour, until the main effects of any medication wear off. Your throat may feel numb and slightly sore. You should not attempt to eat or drink until your swallowing reflex is normal (at least 1 hour). After this you may return to your regular diet unless otherwise instructed. You may feel slightly bloated, due to the air which has been introduced through the endoscope; this will quickly pass.

If you have had a sedative injection, a companion must be able to drive you home as the sedation impairs your reflexes and judgment. For the remainder of the day you should not drive a car, operate machinery, or make important decisions. We suggest that you rest quietly and follow the post procedure instructions provided.

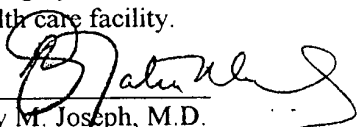
Risks? : Endoscopy can result in complications, such as reaction to medication, perforation of the intestine, and bleeding. These complications are very rare (less than one in 1000 examinations) but may require urgent treatment, and even an operation. The possibility of complications is greater when the endoscope is used to apply treatment. Be sure to inform us if you have any pain, black tarry stools or troublesome vomiting in the hours or days after endoscopy.

Limitations: EGD's are not perfect and missed lesions do occur even with a reasonable standard of care. Lesions including cancer occurring after the procedure is a possibility.

Questions or problems?:

Contact my office at 566-5800 or 243-7200. You can also page the doctor by calling 940-384-3535. **If there is any possibility that you may be pregnant, it is your responsibility to inform us immediately.** I understand that Dr. Joseph is an investor in Day Surgery Center & North Texas Hospital. I understand that I have the option to use an alternative health care facility.

Patient's Signature/ Date



Roy M. Joseph, M.D.