Esophagogastroduodenoscopy, abbreviated EGD, is also called “upper GI endoscopy,” or simply “endoscopy.” EGD is extremely valuable in diagnosing and treating many gastrointestinal problems. The endoscope is gently inserted into the mouth and slowly moves down into the esophagus, stomach, and the intestines. An EGD can help find inflammation in the esophagus and stomach or diagnose ulcers and tumors. It can also be used to determine the cause of upper gastrointestinal bleeding, difficulty swallowing, pain, or indigestion.

**IMPORTANT**

- Bring all current medications with you to the facility where your procedure will be done.
- Please leave all jewelry and valuables at home. However, bring insurance cards and drivers license. You may want to bring a sweater.
- You will be given medication to make you sleepy. You must have someone with you who will be responsible for driving you home. The driver must be a responsible adult, 18 years of age or older. In the event that the driver is a licensed minor, a secondary adult must be available to sign the discharge orders. Any exceptions to this requirement must be made by the attending physician in advance. Patients are not allowed to leave alone by taxi or bus. If you must cancel your procedure, please notify this office as soon as possible.
- Your driver must remain at the facility.

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**THE DAY OF your procedure**

- **Absolutely No Solid Food** until your procedure is completed.
- You may have clear liquids until 3 hours before checking in, and then **DO NOT have anything by mouth until after your procedure. If you drink anything during this time, your procedure may have to be rescheduled.**
- Clear liquids include water, clear juice, black coffee, tea, broth, jello, soft drinks, and popsicles (nothing red, no dairy products).
- No food or drink is allowed in the lobby.
- **If you take blood thinners or medications to treat diabetes, heart conditions, hypertension, or seizures,** see notes on the back.
BLOOD THINNERS
If you take any of the following medications, let us know. You will be given specific instructions based on the procedure you will be having.

- Aggrenox (aspirin/dipyridamole)
- Arixtra
- Brilinta (ticagrelor)
- Coumadin (warfarin)
- Effient (prasugrel)
- Eliquis (apixaban)
- Heparin
- Lovenox
- Miradon (anisindione)
- Plavix (clopidogrel)
- Pletal (cilostazol)
- Pradaxa (dabigatran)
- Savaysa
- Ticlid (ticlopidine HCL)
- Xarelto

If you take Aspirin or Persantine (dipyridamole), please hold the dose on the day of your procedure.

HEART, BLOOD PRESSURE, AND SEIZURE MEDICINES
If you take medication for your heart, blood pressure, or seizures, please take these medications on the morning of your procedure with a small sip of water.

DIABETIC PATIENTS
- Please make sure you have drinks available that are “regular” (not diet or sugar-free) in case you develop low blood sugar while you are prepping for your exam.
- If you take a pill to lower your sugar, do not take it before you check in for your procedure.
- If you take insulin, we will try to schedule your procedure in the early part of the day. Do not take Humulin, regular or NPH insulin before arrival on the day of the procedure.
- If you have an insulin pump, continue on your usual basal rate the morning of your procedure. When eating again, you can resume bolus doses.
- If you take any other insulin preparation such as Lantus, Humalog, or 70/30 Insulin then you MUST CONTACT YOUR PRESCRIBING DOCTOR FOR INSTRUCTIONS.

If you have any questions about these instructions please check our web site at www.gi.md or call 601-355-1234 and ask for your doctor’s assistant.