

**DATE of GASTROSCOPY:** \_\_\_\_\_

**GASTROENTEROLOGIST:**

**Dr.Bassily    Dr.Glance    Dr.Nguyen    Dr.Lachal**

**PROCEDURE LOCATION:**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> La Trobe University Medical Centre | - Cnr Kingsbury Dve & Plenty Rd, Bundoora |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bundoora Endoscopy                 | - 119 Plenty Rd, Bundoora                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Warringal Private Hospital         | - 216 Burgundy St, Heidelberg             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Coburg Endoscopy                   | - 15 Munro St, Coburg                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cotham Private Hospital            | - 209 Cotham, Rd Kew                      |

**GASTROSCOPY INFORMATION**

A gastroscopy is a procedure that enables your doctor to examine the lining of the oesophagus (food pipe/gullet), stomach, and duodenum (first part of the small intestine). Under sedation a thin flexible tube is passed through your mouth into your stomach and duodenum. During the procedure, a tissue sample (biopsy) may be taken and sent to the pathologist. The procedure takes approximately 15 minutes.

**Is Gastroscopy safe?**

Gastroscopy is a very safe and well tolerated procedure. It is common to feel temporary mild bloating afterwards due to inflation of the stomach. Occasionally there may be nausea or lightheadedness following the anaesthetic. Serious complications are very rare, but may include: **Perforation** (a hole in the bowel wall) which may require surgery. **Aspiration** (inhaling of stomach contents into the lung whilst sedated) which may require antibiotic treatment or hospitalization if severe. **Teeth Damage** – whilst a protective mouthguard is used, damage may uncommonly occur. If you wish to discuss the details of all possible rare complications, you should inform your doctor and/or anaesthetist **prior** to the procedure.

**What Preparation is required?**

For the procedure to be accurate and good views obtained your stomach must be empty. You should have nothing to eat or drink for **six hours prior** to the procedure. If you have significant heart, lung or problems, you should seek advice prior to the gastroscopy. You can usually take your regular medications with a sip of water. If you take warfarin/coumadin, clopidogrel (Plavix/Iscover), Pradaxa, or Insulin please seek advice at least 10 days prior to the gastroscopy. Oral diabetes medications should be withheld on the morning of the procedure.

**What do I need to bring?**

Please bring your doctor’s referral letter if available, **Medicare card & Private Health fund details**. You may need to change into a patient gown, so please wear loose fitting clothing that can be easily removed and folded. Any jewellery and valuables should be left at home.

**What happens afterwards?**

There may be minor throat discomfort or abdominal bloating following gastroscopy, these usually settle after a few hours.

You may be drowsy afterwards due to the anaesthetic. **A friend or family member must drive you home**, your procedure may be cancelled if this has not been organized. You must not drive or operate any machinery for 24 hours afterwards. Continue taking all of your usual medications as directed.

You should contact your doctor immediately if you experience any severe abdominal pain, vomiting blood, difficulty breathing, fevers/chills, or any other symptoms you are concerned about. Alternatively, contact the closest emergency department e.g. The Northern Hospital (9405 8000), The Austin Hospital (9496 5000).

**IF YOU DO NOT UNDERSTAND ANY OF THE ABOVE INFORMATION, OR HAVE FURTHER QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS, PLEASE CONTACT GASTRONORTH 9473-8865.**

I have read and understood the above information regarding Gastroscopy. I understand the reason for my doctor to recommend that I undergo a Gastroscopy and understand the risks associated with this procedure as outlined above. I have been given an opportunity to discuss any concerns or queries.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Witness (Doctor): \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_