

WINTER HAVEN AMBULATORY SURGICAL CENTER

Informed consent for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy

Explanation of procedure

Direct visualization of the digestive tract with lighted instruments is referred to as gastrointestinal endoscopy. The following information is presented to help you understand the reasons for and the possible risks of these procedures.

Brief description of endoscopic procedures

1. EGD (Esophagogastroduodenoscopy) – Examination of the esophagus; stomach and duodenum, including, but not limited to; biopsy (sampling of tissue); polypectomy (removal of polyp); removal of foreign body; injection therapy (installation of medicine into tissue through the endoscope); and thermal cautery (the application of a heat source to tissue).
2. Gastrointestinal dilation – Dilating tubes or balloons are used to stretch narrow areas of the gastrointestinal tract.
3. Limited colonoscopy – Examination of the anus, rectum and a portion of the colon, including but not limited to biopsy (sampling of tissue); polypectomy (removal of polyp); injection therapy (installation of medicine into tissue through the endoscope); and thermal cautery (the application of a heat source to tissue).
4. Colonoscopy – Examination of all or a portion of the colon, including but not limited to biopsy (sampling of tissue); polypectomy (removal of polyp); injection therapy (installation of medicine into tissue through the endoscope); and thermal cautery (the application of a heat source to tissue).

Principal risks and complications of gastrointestinal endoscopy

Gastrointestinal endoscopy is generally a low risk procedure, however complications are possible. YOU MUST ASK YOUR PHYSICIAN IF YOU HAVE UNANSWERED QUESTIONS ABOUT YOUR TEST. The risks include, but are not limited to, perforation (the creation of a tear or hole in tissue) requiring surgical repair; bleeding; infection; cardiorespiratory suppression (slowing or stopping of breathing or beating of the heart); aspiration (passage of stomach contents into the lungs); or the failure to diagnose cancer.

Alternatives to gastrointestinal endoscopy

Although gastrointestinal endoscopy is a safe and effective means of examining the GI tract, it is not 100% accurate in diagnosis. In a small percentage of cases a failure of diagnosis or misdiagnosis may result. Other diagnostic or therapeutic procedures, such as medical treatment, x-ray and surgery are available. Another option is to choose no diagnostic studies and/or treatment.

Consent for procedure

I hereby authorize and permit _____, M.D. and whomever he may designate as his assistants to perform upon me the following:

I further authorize the taking of photographs during the procedure. I certify that I understand the information regarding Gastrointestinal endoscopy and have been fully informed of the risks and complications and alternatives. I acknowledge that no guarantees have been made to me concerning the result of this procedure.

I authorize the presence of medical personnel, medical or allied health students or an equipment representative for observation.

Signature of patient/legally authorized person

Physician signature

Witness

Date

Time