

ERCP Preparation



 **PRESBYTERIAN**

IMPORTANT!

Please read these instructions one week prior to your procedure

It will take you several days to prepare for this test. You may also need to stop taking certain medications up to a week in advance. Please read these instructions well in advance of your procedure date. We recommend that you post these instructions in a visible location at home to remind you of the various steps you will need to take.

You will need to take the day off from work.

You will need someone to drive you home after your procedure. You cannot drive yourself home because you will be receiving sedation medication.

We require that you contact us at least 72-hours before your scheduled test if you wish to cancel your test.

**Presbyterian Medical Group
Gastroenterology**

(505) 224-7000

Patient responsibility

- If there are any changes with your insurance(s), please notify our office prior to your procedure date.
- After your procedure is scheduled, you may receive a call from the Presbyterian Registration department to verify your information and insurance coverage. You may call the department with registration questions at **559-1009**.
- If you need financial assistance with the cost of the procedure, or if you have financial or billing questions, please call 923-6600.
- If your insurance requires a referral, it must be current at the time of your procedure, or you may be liable for payment.
- Remember to bring your insurance card(s) with you the day of your procedure.

If you are taking blood thinners

- Five days prior to your procedure, stop any Coumadin (warfarin), Plavix (clopidogrel), Persantine (dipyridamole), or Ticlid (ticlopidine).
- Three days prior to your procedure, stop any Xarelto (rivaroxaban) or Pradaxa (dabigatran etexilate).
- Two days prior to your procedure, stop Eliquis (apixaban) use. Do not discontinue these medications without instructions from your cardiologist, prescribing physician or Coumadin clinic. Contact the prescribing physician for instructions. If your physician does not want you to stop these medications, please notify our office at 224-7000.
- If you are diabetic, please contact your prescribing provider for diabetic medication instructions.

DO NOT take the following medications:

- **Alka Seltzer, Pepto Bismol, Iron supplements**

The night before

- Do not eat or drink after midnight.
- If you develop a cold, fever, cough, sore throat or chest pain before your appointment, please notify our office.

On the day of your procedure

- By 6 a.m. the day of your procedure, please take your blood pressure, cardiac and seizure medications.
- Bring inhalers, reading glasses, and hearing aids if you use them.
- Remove all jewelry and leave valuables at home

CONTINUED ON BACK

Endoscopic Retrograde Cholangiopancreatography

What you should know:

Endoscopic (end-o-SKOP-ik) retrograde (REH-trow-grade) cholangiopancreatography (ko-LAN-g-o-pan-kree-uh-TOG-ruh-fee) (ERCP) is both a test and a way to treat some conditions. Endoscopic means using a tiny scope to look at something inside your body. Retrograde means going backward. Cholangio is the medical word for an area where juices from several organs go into your intestine to help you digest (break down and use) food. Pancreatography means taking a picture of your pancreas.

During an ERCP, a thin tube with a tiny light and camera near the end, is put in your mouth. It goes down your throat and into your esophagus (swallowing tube). Then the tube goes into your stomach and through your stomach to your small intestine. A smaller tube can go inside the tube you swallowed. This even tinier tube can go into the narrow areas your caregiver wants to examine or work on.

ERCP as a test: ERCP is a test that may be used to:

- See several areas of your digestive system. Sometimes all a caregiver needs to do is to see the area to know what is causing your belly problem.
- Inject a dye to take pictures.
- Take a small piece of tissue for a biopsy (BI-op-c).
- Measure pressures in the ducts (little tubes used to move digestive juices).

ERCP as a treatment: ERCP is a treatment that may be used to:

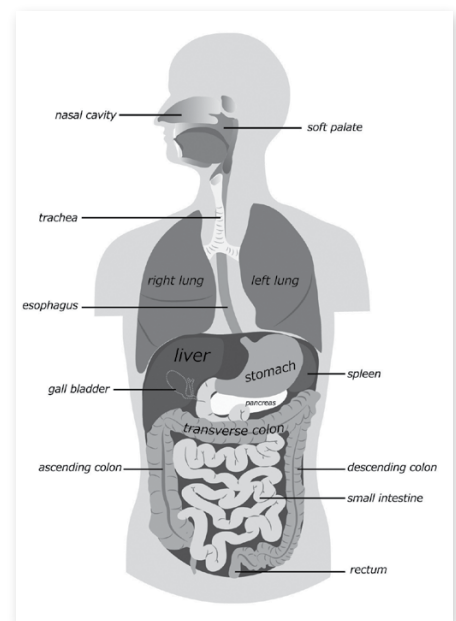
- Place a stent. A stent is a plastic or metal object that is used to keep a duct open.
- Make an opening so a digestive juice will flow evenly from a duct.
- Break and remove small stones that may be clogging ducts.

Risks:

- With an ERCP you may get an infection in your digestive system. You may also get pancreatitis (inflammation of the pancreas). In rare cases you may bleed, or get a hole in your esophagus (swallowing tube), stomach or intestine. You may have trouble breathing or stop breathing. You may need surgery to fix some of these problems, or need to stay in the hospital because of them.
- Without ERCP you may need to have another test, which also has risks. You may need surgery. Surgery has many more risks than ERCP.

Call our office at 224-7000 if you have the following symptoms after your procedure:

- Nausea
- Vomiting
- Fever
- Chills
- Bleeding
- Abdominal pain



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