

What is an EGD?

Esophagogastroduodenoscopy (also known as an EGD) examination visualizes the stomach and part of the small intestine (duodenum.)

EGDs can help diagnose ulcers, gastritis, tumors, polyps, cancers, and lesions. It can also gather specimens for further study.

Do I need an EGD exam?

Your provider may order an EGD if you are exhibiting any of the following warning signs of gastrointestinal disease:

- Difficulty swallowing
- Abdominal tenderness, pain or rigidity; epigastric pain
- Change in bowel habits, such as constipation, caliber of stools, or chronic diarrhea
- Persistent vomiting or persistent diarrhea
- Rectal bleeding
- Weight loss
- Dehydration or fever
- Heartburn
- Iron-deficiency anemia
- Full feeling after eating

Contact Us



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EGD Exam



LUCAS **LC** **COUNTY**
HEALTH **HHC** **CENTER**

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Preparation for an EGD

Physical preparation is required prior to an EGD examination. You may be instructed not to eat or drink anything for a specified period before the EGD examination.

Before the EGD

The EGD examination procedure will be carefully explained and you will be asked to sign a consent form.

Your medical history will be taken. Note any allergies you have and bring a list of your medications.

Your blood pressure and other vital signs will be checked.

You will talk with a Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA) prior to the EGD.

What to Expect

1. After checking in at the front desk, you will be escorted to our same day surgery waiting room. From there, A nurse will call you back to the same day surgery area.

2. You will be asked to change in to a hospital gown. All personal items, including jewelry, will be left with your driver. If you would prefer to leave them at home, that is fine.

3. You will be taken to the procedure room by wheelchair while your driver waits for you in a designated waiting area.

4. You will be assisted to a cart by your nurse in preparation for the procedure.

5. Monitors, such as a blood pressure cuff, EKG electrodes, pulse oximetry and oxygen cannula will be placed on you.

6. You will be asked to turn onto your left side and asked to bite down on a bite block. This will keep your mouth open during the exam and protects the scope.

7. A Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA) will administer medication to help you relax and become drowsy. You will then be sedated.

8. A scope will be inserted into your mouth and passed through your throat. You may be asked to swallow, but you will not remember afterward. The upper digestive system will be examined.

After The Exam

You will rest until the sedative wears off and your vital signs are stable. Your tongue and throat may feel sore and you may feel bloated. This minor discomfort will soon pass.

After determining your stability, the nurse will take you by wheelchair to a consultation with your provider. It is important to bring another adult with you at this time in case you have difficulty remembering due to the after effects of the sedation.

You will then be returned to the recovery area and be monitored as you become more alert. Once you can tolerate fluids by mouth, you will be given solid foods. You will remain in the recovery area for approximately 45 to 60 minutes receiving recovery assistance as necessary.

Discharge instructions will be explained and a copy of them will be sent home with you.

Complications from EGDs are rare. Call your provider if you experience any of the following symptoms:

- Bleeding
- Pain
- Fever