

GERD

Gastroesophageal reflux disease (GERD) occurs when the contents of the stomach, acid or occasionally bile, flows back into the esophagus. The acid or bile irritates the esophagus' lining and causes GERD symptoms. Over time, the inflammation to the esophagus can lead to other complications including the narrowing of the esophagus, esophageal ulcer, and Barrett's esophagus (precancerous changes to the esophagus). Medications may be used to treat GERD, however, surgical intervention is sometimes needed.

Initially, an endoscopy may be performed. This is a surgical procedure where a flexible tube, equipped with a camera and light, is led through the throat and allows visual examination of the esophagus. A biopsy may be collected during the procedure for further testing.

Sentinel Lymph Node Biopsy

The sentinel lymph node is the first area in the body where cancer cells may move to after they have left the original cancer site. A biopsy is performed to if a cancer has spread to the lymph nodes and is a less extensive surgery than a lymph node dissection - however, if cancer is found in the biopsied node, more surgery will be required to remove additional lymph nodes.

EGD

Esophagogastroduodenoscopy (EGD) is a scope examination that visualizes the stomach and part of the small intestine. EGD Can help diagnose ulcers, gastritis, tumors, polyps, cancers, and lesions. It can also gather specimens for further study.

Your physician 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 diarrhea
- Rectal bleeding
- Weight loss
- Dehydration or fever
- Heartburn
- Iron-deficiency anemia
- Full feeling after eating

Thermal Ablation

This procedure is done primarily to treat uterine bleeding problems. It is a minimally invasive procedure that destroys most or all of the tissue that is responsible for menstrual bleeding with the outcome being, typically, that patients may never bleed again, or see a dramatic reduction.

General Surgery



LUCAS **LC** **COUNTY**
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An Affiliate of  **UnityPoint Health**

(641) 774-3223
www.lchcia.com

Our Services

Partnering with general and specialty surgeons, we are able to offer emergency surgery as well as a wide range of procedures from podiatry and orthopaedic surgery to cataract surgery and colonoscopy screenings. Whether you are having surgery that requires an inpatient stay in the hospital, or outpatient surgery, our surgical staff will offer exceptional care before, during, and after your surgery.

Our services include:

- Epidural Steroid Injections
- Appendectomy
- Cataract Surgery
- Gallbladder
- GERD
- Colonoscopies
- Sentinel Lymph Node Biopsy
- EGD
- Thermal Ablation
- Orthopaedic Surgery
- Podiatric Surgery
- ENT Surgery
- Abdominal Surgery
- Benign Breast Issues
- Skin Cancers
- ...and more!

Epidural Steroid Injection

Epidural steroids have been safely and effectively used in the treatment of chronic neck and back pain for the last 40 years. Back and neck pain are usually treated conservatively with bed rest, physical therapy, non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs, back exercises, and low-dose narcotics. A majority of patients will improve on this regimen. However, when conservative therapy fails, epidural steroid injections are an effective next step in treatment. Epidural steroid injections work by several mechanisms. They break the cycle of pain, followed by muscle spasm, followed by more pain which occurs in this condition. Pain relief afforded by epidural steroids may allow a larger and more pain free range of motion. This increases the effectiveness of physical therapy in preserving muscle strength and range of motion.

By administering a low-dose, long-acting medication, epidural steroids can effectively deliver the anti-inflammatory effect directly to the site of injury. This

Cataract Surgery

If you are experiencing blurred or cloudy vision or difficulty driving at night, you may have a cataract in one or both eyes. Cataract is the common term for a cloudy eye lens. The only way to know for certain if you have cataracts is to visit your eye doctor for a complete eye exam.

Cataract Surgery is the recommended treatment for cataracts. The cloudy eye lens is easily removed and replaced with a clear implanted lens. The procedure takes only minutes and is accomplished with very little discomfort.

