



**PATIENT INFORMATION SHEET
EGD**

You have been scheduled for an examination of the upper gastrointestinal tract (esophagus, stomach, and a part of the small intestine). This is done by looking at the lining of the esophagus, stomach, and intestine with a lighted tube. It is important to **stop** eating any solid food **twelve hours** prior to your procedure (you may continue to drink clear liquids). But **stop** all liquids **three hours** before the procedure time.

When you arrive for your test, your blood pressure and pulse will be checked, and then a small IV catheter will be put into a vein in your arm or hand so that medicine to relax you can be given. The medicines that are usually given are Demerol, or Fentanyl (narcotic pain medicines), and/or Versed (a sedative relaxing medicine). In addition, the back of your throat may be sprayed with a numbing medicine to prevent gagging. Once you are relaxed, the doctor will help you swallow the tube and then start the exam. The examination usually takes 15 to 20 minutes. If abnormalities are seen, biopsies (small pinches of tissue) can be taken through the tube, and then sent to the laboratory for examination by a microscope. Most patients are awake enough to leave within an hour. However, for safety reasons, you **cannot** drive or operate machinery, tools or appliances, until the following day, as the effect of the medicine wears off slowly. Before you leave, a check-out sheet will be provided explaining the results of the test.

Possible complications from this test include abdominal pain or cramping, belching, sore throat and soreness, or redness or bruising at the IV site. In addition, more serious complications can occur. These include, but are not limited to, heart or breathing problems which occur in 0.03% of exams, tears or perforation (making a hole in) of the intestinal tract occurring in 1/3,000 exams, if a dilation of a stricture is performed, the chance of a perforation is 0.4%. Bleeding may occur in 1/3,000 exams and death is very rare, occurring in less than 1/5,000 exams. If any of these complications occur, hospitalization, transfusions, or surgery may be necessary. You will then have a chance to discuss and/or ask any questions you have about this examination or its possible complications.

7 days prior to your exam: You should stop taking **Plavix, Aspirin, and Pletal.**
3 days prior to your exam: You should stop taking all other anti-inflammatory or blood thinning medicines (prescription or over the counter). A detailed list of those medicines is available at our office or online at www.westoverhillsgi.com. Tylenol is ok to take.
If you are taking Coumadin, or medicine for diabetes, or have been instructed by your physician not to stop any medications, please contact our office for further instructions.
Please continue all other medications as ordered.
Do you have an artificial heart valve or history of endocarditis (heart infection)? Yes No

Patient Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please bring someone with you to drive you home, as you will be sedated for the exam. The doctor will talk to you after the exam and will give you recommendations for diet, medication, follow up care, etc. Wear comfortable clothing; bring your glasses, hearing aids, insurance card(s) and completed information form. We will expect payment of co-pays, coinsurance and deductibles at the time of service. If you have any questions please call (210) 509-8888 or additional information can be found at our website www.westoverhillsgi.com.

You may receive THREE separate bills from this procedure: 1- Physician, 2- facility (hospital or endoscopy center), 3- pathology (biopsy examination)