



ERCP – Discharge Advice

Usually for this type of procedure it is necessary to give you more sedation than we would normally give to someone having a simple “camera” test. We also give patients a strong painkiller, which, mixed with the sedative, can have quite a long lasting effect (up to 24 hours).

This is also the same if you have received Propofol sedation (General Anaesthetic) which can make you feel sleepy for some time.

It is important that you follow the instructions given in this leaflet.

1. You may find that you have some discomfort, a sore throat can occur and you may experience a feeling of wind or bloating. This will usually pass within 24 hours as you move around.
2. Because you have been given sedation it is important that you rest quietly for the remainder of the day with someone to look after you for 24 hours, as you will still be affected by the sedative drugs.
3. It is advisable to have the following day off work, but in any event for the first 24 hours following sedation / general anaesthetic (GA) DO NOT:
 - Drive a car
 - Drink alcohol
 - Operate machinery
 - Take sleeping tablets
 - Sign any legally binding documents
 - Work at heights (including climbing ladders or on to chairs)
4. Because the sedation affects your memory, you will be given written information or be seen by the doctor together with the person who is accompanying you, to discuss the findings of the test. A report will be forwarded to your GP within the next few days
5. You will have been kept under observation on the unit for longer than we keep people who have had a simple Gastroscopy. This is to ensure that everything is as it should be and you are not suffering any side effects following the test.
6. You should be able to eat and drink normally when recovered from the sedation, unless the doctor tells you otherwise.

Please note:

As with any test, the results given to you today cannot be guaranteed to be totally accurate, although the endoscopist performing the test has taken great care in reporting what he or she has seen. A copy of the report will be sent to your GP in the next few days however, if you have had biopsies taken, the results could take up to 4 – 6 weeks.

Information for Patients

If you have had biopsies (samples) taken, the results will be sent to your GP/Referring consultant and a letter will be sent to you directly. If you have not received your biopsy results within 8 weeks, please call the department that you had your test carried out who can look into this for you.

We would advise against travelling abroad in the first three days following your procedure. If you have any travel plans please discuss these with us.

What if I feel unwell after the test?

You should contact the endoscopy department or your GP if you are worried about any symptoms you experience after your procedure.

It is very important if you experience any of the following, you must seek help immediately from either your GP or the accident and emergency department taking this letter with you;

- ☐ If you develop any pain in your neck, shoulder, stomach or centre of your chest, or if you become unusually short of breath
- ☐ If you vomit blood or your motions turn black
- ☐ If you develop a high temperature or shivering

To contact us by telephone:

If you have any problems or questions please use the numbers below to contact us:

Heartlands Endoscopy Unit

Monday to Friday 8:30 am to 5.30pm - Excluding Bank holidays 0121 424 0438

Good Hope Hospital - Scoping Suite Treatment Centre

Monday to Friday 8:30 am to 5.30 pm - Excluding Bank holidays 0121 424 9506

Queen Elizabeth Hospital Endoscopy Unit

Monday to Friday 8:30 am to 5:30 pm – Excluding Bank holidays 0121 371 3833

An answer telephone is available for you to leave your name, telephone number and message. We will return your call.

If your call is out of these hours and you require urgent medical advice, you can contact one of the following:

- **Speak to an Endoscopy Nurse directly – phone 0121 424 2000 and ask to be put through to the Endoscopy Nurse on call**
- **Your own GP**
- **NHS Direct – Telephone 0845 4647**

PATIENT SATISFACTION SURVEY

Your Feedback is important to us. Please use the QR code below to complete our patient feedback survey, and let us know how we can improve our services for you.



If you require this information in another format, such as a different language, large print, braille or audio version please ask a member of staff or email interpreting.service@uhb.nhs.uk.