THE BENEFITS OF UPPER ENDOSCOPY/EGD

It can investigate symptoms:
An upper endoscopy can help determine what is causing digestive issues such as: heartburn, nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain, difficulty swallowing and gastrointestinal bleeding.

It can diagnose diseases:
During an upper endoscopy, tissues samples (biopsies) can be collected to test for diseases and conditions that may be causing anemia, bleeding, inflammation or diarrhea. It can also detect some upper digestive cancers.

It can treat conditions:
Special tools can be passed through the endoscope to treat upper digestive problems. For example, cautery can be used to stop bleeding blood vessels and balloons can be used to widen a narrow esophagus.

Gastroenterology - More than Upper Endoscopy

Our gastroenterologists treat many types of digestive conditions. Call us to schedule a visit!

Here are just a few of the digestive conditions our gastroenterologists address:
- Diarrhea or constipation
- Heartburn or reflux
- Rectal bleeding or black stool
- Difficulty swallowing or dysphagia
- Unintended weight loss or loss of appetite
- Abdominal pain or bloating
- Eating difficulties

Some diseases we can help you manage:
- Reflux and Barrett's Esophagus
- Ulcerative colitis, Crohn's disease, other inflammatory bowel diseases
- Diverticulosis and diverticulitis
- Irritable bowel syndrome (IBS)
- Liver diseases, such as hepatitis and cirrhosis
- Pancreatic diseases
- Celiac sprue (bread/wheat/pasta autoimmune condition)

We also perform other procedures:
- Upper endoscopy for the esophagus, stomach & duodenum
- Colonoscopy for cancer screening & to diagnose colon abnormalities
- ERCP to access the liver & gallbladder drainage system
- Video capsule (pill camera) endoscopy to image the small intestine
- "Bravo" acid measurement probe via upper endoscopy

YOUR PROCEDURE IS SCHEDULED FOR:

_____
Date   Time

☐ Bret Ancowitz, MD

☐ Thomas Dunzendorfer, MD

☐ Phani Molakatalla, MD

Please arrive at _____ A.M./P.M.

Please check in on the day of your procedure at:

Heywood Hospital
242 Green Street
Gardner, MA 01440

Please enter through the Main Entrance and proceed to Surgical Day Care.

Heywood Gastroenterology
Bret Ancowitz, MD
Thomas Dunzendorfer, MD
Phani Molakatalla, MD

250 Green Street
Suite 104, Medical Arts Building
Gardner, MA 01440
978-669-5522

www.Heywood.org/Services/Gastroenterology

Upper Endoscopy (EGD)
Instructions

Heywood Healthcare
Athol Hospital | Heywood Hospital | Heywood Medical Group

14 DAYS PRIOR

- Arrange for transportation.
- Review your instructions.

7 DAYS PRIOR

- Stop taking iron (ferrous sulfate) 7 days before your EGD.

Please call your prescribing provider if you take one of the following blood thinners, as they may make changes for you prior to a EGD:

- Coumadin (Warfarin)
- Plavix (Clopidogrel),
- Aggrenox Ticlid (Ticlopidine)
- Pradaxa (Dabigatran)
- Effient (Prasugrel)
- Brilinta (Ticagrelor)
- Eliquis (Apixaban),
- Xarelto
- Lovenox injections must be stopped 24 hours prior to your procedure

If you have diabetes, please contact the provider who manages it for you to review diet and medication modifications prior to your EGD.

Do not stop any prescription medication other then those listed above.

PROCEDURE DAY

DO NOT EAT or DRINK anything after midnight prior to your procedure.

- NO gum
- NO smoking
- NO liquids

Take your usual morning medications with a small sip of liquid (except for iron and anything which you have been asked to stop). If you need any of the following medications, make sure you take them:

- Cardiac (heart)
- Seizure
- Blood pressure
- Asthma medications & inhalers

ARRIVE 1 HOUR PRIOR to procedure time.

Please be aware that you may be at our facility for 2-4 hours. Your transportation must be available to pick you up at any time within that range upon a call from Surgical Day Care.

Heywood & Athol Hospitals REQUIRE you have a ride home, you may not take a taxi home without an accompanying adult. You may NOT walk or drive yourself home.

Call our office at 978-669-5522 with any questions, to cancel or reschedule your procedure.
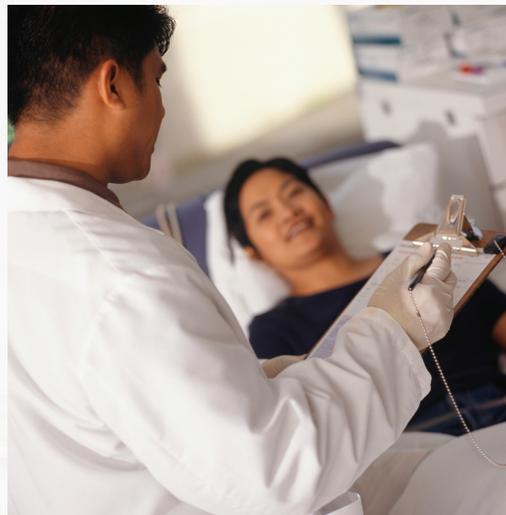
Heywood Healthcare | You Matter Here