

About the GI Endoscopy Lab

What you need to know and do for your procedure

Do I need to have someone come with me to the GI Endoscopy Lab?

If you are getting a sedative or anesthesia for your procedure, a responsible adult must come with you. This person must stay in the waiting room and drive you home after your procedure.

What will happen once I get to the GI Endoscopy Lab?

You will register. Then you will be taken to the Pre Op area. Your family members will stay in the Waiting Area.

In the Pre Op area, we will talk to you about the medicines you take, your medical history, and any allergies you have. Then an IV (intravenous) line will be started.

If you are having anesthesia, the anesthesia team will meet with you. They may order extra tests if they think you need them.

The doctor who is doing your procedure will meet with you. You will sign a consent, and you will be taken to the Procedure area.

After the procedure, you will go to the Recovery area. One of your family members can be with you. You will stay there at least 30 minutes, until you are alert enough to go home.

Before you leave, you and your family member will be given discharge instructions. Your doctor will talk to you about your procedure. You will be taken to your car in a wheel chair.

How will I feel after my procedure?

After your procedure, you may have:

- a lot of gas and burping
- soreness of muscles and abdomen
- sore throat (if you had an upper endoscopy procedure).

If the symptoms last a long time or they become more intense, please call us at 615-322-0128.

What are the side effects of IV drugs?

You may have a number of side effects. For this reason, you should not drive a car, use machinery, or sign legal documents for 24 hours after the procedure. You may experience mild:

- forgetfulness, drowsiness, or tiredness
- nausea or vomiting
- dizziness, lightheadedness, sweating
- irritation at the site of your IV
- dryness of mouth, nose, and throat.

Who should I contact if I have questions?

You can call the Endoscopy Nurse at 615-322-1881. You can also ask questions, reach your doctor through a secure network, or find test results by sending a message using *My Health at Vanderbilt*. You can register by logging onto:

<https://www.myhealthatvanderbilt.com/myhealth-portal/app>