



ACADIANA GASTROENTEROLOGY

A S S O C I A T E S

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Endoscopic Retrograde Cholangiopancreatogram (ERCP) PROCEDURE INFORMATION

PATIENT NAME: _____

PROCEDURE DATE: _____ ARRIVAL TIME: _____

PLACE FOR PROCEDURE: _____

Endoscopic Retrograde Cholangiopancreatogram (ERCP)

An endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatogram (ERCP) is a test that combines the use of a flexible, lighted scope (endoscope) with X-ray pictures to examine the tubes that drain the liver, gallbladder, and pancreas.

The endoscope is inserted through the mouth and gently moved down the throat into the esophagus, stomach, and duodenum until it reaches the point where the ducts from the pancreas (pancreatic ducts) and gallbladder (bile ducts) drain into the duodenum.

ERCP can treat certain problems found during the test. If an abnormal growth is seen, an instrument can be inserted through the endoscope to obtain a sample of the tissue for further testing (biopsy). If a gallstone is present in the common bile duct, the doctor can sometimes remove the stone with instruments inserted through the endoscope. A narrowed bile duct can be opened by inserting a small wire-mesh or plastic tube (called a stent) through the endoscope and into the duct.

How should I prepare for the procedure?

An empty stomach allows for the best and safest examination.

DO NOT EAT OR DRINK ANYTHING AFTER MIDNIGHT, including water. Tell your doctor in advance about any medications you take; you might need to adjust your usual dose for the examination. Discuss any allergies to medications as well as medical conditions, such as heart or lung disease.

Special Instructions:

Notes and Comments:

1. Continue / Discontinue – taking aspirin, blood thinners and anti-inflammatory medications **three (3) days** before the test.
2. Let us know if you have a history of prosthetic heart valve, blood clots, stents or atrial fibrillation.
3. Avoid diabetic medications the morning of the test.
4. Make sure you take your blood pressure medication(s) the morning of the test with a sip of water.
5. **You MUST be accompanied by a friend or relative to drive and assist you home.**

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT YOUR SCHEDULED TEST, PLEASE CALL OUR OFFICE: 337-269-0963