

AFTERNOON GASTROSCOPY PROCEDURE SHEET

Gastroscopy

Gastroscopy is a test using a thin flexible camera to inspect the food pipe, stomach and top of the small bowel. It is commonly performed as a day case procedure. It allows for photographs and samples (biopsies) to be obtained, and for the removal of small growths (polyps) if required. The procedure is performed by a Gastroenterologist and sedation given by an Anaesthetist.

These procedures are very safe and well tolerated. The risks are less than 1 in 10,000 for bleeding or damaging the wall of the upper gut. It generally takes around 10-15 minutes to complete a gastroscopy, and you will be able to restart your normal diet immediately after the procedure.

There are restrictions on your ability to work and drive on the day of the procedure due to having a short anaesthetic, however most patients return to normal duties the following day. You will require someone to escort you home and be with you the night after your procedure.

Special Considerations

If you have diabetes, kidney problems or take blood thinners (apart from aspirin which is safe to continue), please contact our rooms directly regarding special instructions to best prepare for the procedure.

Preparation for procedure

- Fast for six hours – you may have a light breakfast by 7am on day of your test
- Take usual medications on the morning of your procedure at 7am with a sip of water only, unless instructed by our staff with regard to diabetes or blood thinning medication.

Unless otherwise instructed, **please report to the the Day Surgery on Level 5 at the Hobart Private Hospital by 1pm on the day of your procedure.**

You are likely to be ready to go home around 5-6pm.