



KAISER PERMANENTE

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INSTRUCTIONS FOR ERCP **(Endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography)**

Your appointment is with Dr. _____ on _____ at _____

We are located in the Out Patient Procedure Center, **Dept 240** on the 2nd Floor in the **GREEN AREA** of the new medical office bldg. Please arrive **60 minutes** prior to your appointment and register here.

This procedure is scheduled for 2-3 hours. You will be given a sedative (versed) and a pain relief (fentanyl) by intravenous (I.V.) injection. Therefore, **after the procedure you will be drowsy, and will need a driver to take you home. Your driver must be present at the start of your procedure.**

ONLY IF YOU ARE CURRENTLY TAKING COUMADIN YOU'LL NEED TO STOP IT 5 DAYS PRIOR TO YOUR EXAM. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS CALL (408) 851-3939

Stop seven (7) days before your appointment you should not take any baby aspirin or no steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (such as Motrin, Advil, Aleve, Naprosyn, Nuprin, Plavix, etc). Tylenol/ acetaminophen are O.K. **ALL PATIENTS ON BLOOD PRESSURE MEDICATIONS SHOULD CONTINUE TAKING THEM.**

Call your doctor if you have any questions about other medications including blood pressure, Coumadin (warfarin), insulin or diuretics/water pills.

****Diabetics should reduce their insulin as instructed by their doctor.**

****Please bring a list of medications that you are currently on.**

DO NOT EAT OR DRINK ANYTHING (INCLUDING WATER) 6 HOURS BEFORE YOUR APPOINTMENT. You may start eating after the procedure is over. It is recommended that you start with a light meal (soup, broth, cereal, etc.) and gradually return to your regular diet.

If you have any questions, need to cancel or reschedule your appointment, please call (408) 851-2760. Office hours are from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m

ERCP (Endoscopic Retrograde Cholangiopancreatography) Information Sheet

This procedure involves placing a tube in your throat and passing it down your esophagus, into your stomach and into the upper part of your small intestine. The opening from the bile and pancreatic duct into the duodenum is identified. A small plastic tube is passed through the endoscope into the opening and fluid is injected into the ducts so their outlines can be seen under the x-ray.

An injection is usually given during the procedure to make you drowsy. You will also be given medication which numbs the back of your throat. In order for the doctor to get a good look without his/her view being obstructed by food, do not eat anything after your evening meal the night before the procedure. Do not eat or drink anything (including fluids) at least 6 hours before your appointment. Because you will be sedated during the procedure, someone must drive you home. Your driver must be present at the time you check in for your appointment. The procedure usually takes one hour. You will be discharged from the recovery room after 2 or 3 hours.

Although this procedure is usually safe, like any procedure there are potential complications that may occur. These are unusual, but you should be aware of them. They include:

- 1. Pancreatic inflammation (pancreatitis) in 5 persons out of 100.**
- 2. Making a hole in the lining of the esophagus, stomach or intestine (perforation).**
- 3. Infection in the bile ducts or pancreas.**
- 4. Damage to the throat when the instrument is being swallowed.**
- 5. Bleeding from moving the instrument or from an incision made of the bile duct.**
- 6. Pneumonia because of stomach contents coming up and getting into the lung during the procedure.**
- 7. Inflammation of the veins through which the sedatives are given**
- 8. Heart and breathing problems from the sedations.**
- 9. Death**