

# Gastroscopy

Lloydminster Specialist Clinic  
[www.lloydminstersurgeons.com](http://www.lloydminstersurgeons.com)

You need to be at the Lloydminster Hospital on \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_.

The procedure will be performed after the nurse has prepped you.

You will require a ride home. You are NOT allowed to drive for 24 hours afterwards.

CONFIRMATION OF YOUR APPT MUST BE MADE 2 WEEKS PRIOR WITH THE LLOYD HOSPITAL 306 - 820 - 6292 OR YOUR SCOPE MAY BE CANCELLED

## PREPARATION:

1. Patients on blood thinners are to stop taking this medication as per anesthesia decision at PAC.
2. Diet - you should not eat or drink anything after 10:00 pm the night before the scope.
3. You must have someone to drive you home afterwards. (No cabs unless somebody accompanies you)

### ***What is a gastroscopy?***

A gastroscopy is an examination of the upper gastrointestinal (GI) tract with a slim, flexible, lighted tube.

### ***What happens during the procedure?***

You may be given a sedative via an IV. Local anesthetic is also given to help avoid gagging. During the procedure the doctor will look for any abnormalities. The entire procedure lasts 15 - 30 minutes.

### ***What will happen after the procedure?***

Following the procedure you will be observed for about an hour. You should not drive or operate any machinery or do anything else that requires a quick response for at least 24 hours. You will need a driver to get you home. You may have a mild sore throat after this procedure, and should not eat or drink anything for 2 hours after the procedure.

### ***What are the risks associated with this procedure?***

A local anesthetic may not numb the area quite enough and you may feel some minor discomfort. In rare cases, you may have an allergic reaction to the drug used for anesthetic. Injury may occur to areas being examined.

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There are risks and complications with this procedure. They include but are not limited to the following.

**Common risks and complications** include:

- Nausea and vomiting.
- Faintness or dizziness, especially when you start to move around.
- Headache.
- Pain, redness or bruising at the sedation injection site (usually in the hand or arm).
- Muscle aches and pains.
- Allergy to medications given at time of the procedure.

**Uncommon risks and complications** include:

- About 1 person in every 1,000 will experience bleeding from the oesophagus (food pipe), stomach and duodenum where a lesion or polyp was removed. This is usually minor and can usually be stopped through the endoscope. Rarely, surgery is needed to stop bleeding.
- Heart and lung problems such as heart attack or vomit in the lungs causing pneumonia. Emergency treatment may be necessary.
- Damage to your teeth or jaw due to the presence of instruments in your mouth.
- An existing medical condition that you may have getting worse.

**Rare risks and complications** include:

- Missed polyps or growths.
- About 1 person in every 5,000 will accidentally get a hole (perforation) in the oesophagus, stomach or duodenum. This can cause a leak of stomach contents into the abdomen. If a hole is made, you will be admitted to hospital for further treatment which may include surgery.
- Your procedure may not be able to be finished due to problems inside your body or because of technical problems.
- Bacteraemia (infection in the blood). This will need antibiotics.
- 'Dead arm' type feeling in any nerve, due to positioning with the procedure - usually temporary.
- Anaphylaxis (severe allergy) to medication given at the time of procedure.
- Death as a result of complications to this procedure is rare.

**Other Information:** Appointment changed may occur due to unpredictable or emergency cases. Bring all your medications with you, if you are diabetic please bring your insulin. Do not bring valuables, jewelry, or large sums of money.