

**ENDOSCOPIC RETROGRADE  
CHOLANGIOPANCREATOGRAPHY  
(ERCP)**



**Appointment Date:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Time:** \_\_\_\_\_

**LOCATION: Aultman Main Hospital:** 2600 6<sup>th</sup> St. SW, Canton

**DEPARTMENT:** Aultman Same Day Surgery Unit

**SUMMARY OF THE PROCEDURE:** An ERCP is an examination of the pancreatic duct and the common bile duct using a flexible scope and fluoroscopy (X-ray visualization). The pancreatic duct is the tube connecting the small intestine and the pancreas. The common bile duct is the tube connecting the small intestine to the gall bladder. It is possible to remove gallstones or other causes of pain or jaundice during this procedure. The procedure can take 30 minutes to an hour to complete.

**INSTRUCTIONS**

**One week before your procedure:**

- Tell your doctor if you think you may be pregnant.
- Check with your doctor for specific instructions if you are taking aspirin, anti-inflammatory drugs, insulin or anticoagulants (blood thinners).
- Make sure you have arrangements to have someone with you who can drive you home after your procedure.

**The day before your procedure:**

- Do not eat or drink **ANYTHING** after midnight unless otherwise instructed by your doctor.
- The hospital will contact you with your arrival time, so please answer the phone if you see a call from Aultman.

**The day of your procedure:**

- Bring a complete list of all your medications, including prescription and over-the-counter medications, herbal supplements and vitamins.
- Wear loose-fitting clothes that will be comfortable for you to wear home.
- Leave valuables such as cash, credit cards or jewelry at home.
- Report to the Same-Day Surgery department and check in with the person at the desk. You will be asked to sign a consent form to allow the doctor to perform the procedure.
- You will be escorted to a private room where you will change into a gown. A nurse will obtain vital signs and start an intravenous (IV) line to provide fluids and sedation. Your family member/friend may remain with you until you are transported to the OR receiving area.
- An antibiotic will be given through the IV if ordered by your doctor.

**During your procedure:**

- You will lie on your abdomen on a table in a darkened room.
- Medicine will be given through your IV line to relax you and keep you comfortable. Oxygen will also be administered.
- The nurse will place a “bite block” in your mouth to protect your teeth and the scope.
- The scope will not interfere with your breathing. You may feel pressure in your throat, but you will likely not remember anything about the procedure because of the medicine given.
- Interventions are often done to remove gall stones or other causes of pain or jaundice. This should not cause you discomfort.
- The test is done with a constant X-ray called fluoroscopy.

**After your procedure:**

- You will be taken to the recovery room where you will stay for about an hour.
- You may feel bloated or have some abdominal cramps. You will be encouraged to pass gas to get rid of these symptoms. You may also have a slight sore throat.
- The examining doctor will tell you what he/she found and send a report to your primary care provider.
- After your recovery, you will be discharged home. **YOU MUST HAVE SOMEONE DRIVE YOU HOME.**
- You should not plan to do anything that requires concentration or coordination for the rest of the day.
- Check with your doctor for specific instructions if you are taking aspirin, anti-inflammatory medicine or anticoagulants (blood thinners).
- Please call your doctor if you have vomiting, difficult swallowing, bleeding, a temperature elevation of 101 degrees or greater or severe abdominal pain that doesn't go away after you pass gas.

**LENGTH OF EXAM:** Plan on spending about five hours at the hospital from start to finish.

**QUESTIONS PRIOR TO YOUR TEST**

Call the Aultman Endoscopy/Minor Surgery department at 330-363-2511 weekdays between 7 a.m. and 1 p.m. for any questions about your test.

**SCHEDULING AND REGISTRATION:** Pre-registration is required for an accurate medical record and proper billing. Please call Aultman Centralized Scheduling at 330-363-6318 between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. to pre-register. If you have questions or need to reschedule your exam, please call the doctor who is performing the test.

**HOSPITAL PARKING**

It is best if you park on the 7<sup>th</sup> Street side of the hospital in the parking deck. Please note that your parking will be free since you are having a procedure with us.

**DIRECTIONS TO THE DEPARTMENT**

The Aultman Same-Day Surgery department is located in the main hospital on the main floor right off of the lobby. When you enter through the 7<sup>th</sup> Street doors, make an immediate right and follow the “Same-Day Surgery” signs. Check in with the person at the desk.