UPPER ENDOSCOPY OR EGD

Appointment Date: __________________________ Time: _______________________

LOCATION: Aultman Outpatient Department (Endoscopy Unit)

SUMMARY OF THE TEST: An esophagogastroduodenoscopy – also called an upper endoscopy or EGD – is an examination of your esophagus (food pipe), stomach and duodenum (the first part of your small intestine) using a flexible scope. The procedure lasts approximately 15 minutes.

INSTRUCTIONS:

- **One week before your procedure:**
  - Check with your doctor for specific instructions if you are taking aspirin, anti-inflammatory drugs, insulin or anticoagulants (blood thinners).

- **The evening before your procedure:**
  - Do not eat or drink ANYTHING after midnight, unless otherwise instructed by your doctor.

- **The day of your procedure:**
  - Bring a list of all medications you are currently taking, 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 Outpatient Endoscopy Department at least one hour before your scheduled procedure time. You will be asked to sign a consent form to authorize the doctor to perform the procedure.
  - You will be escorted to the prep/recovery area, where you will change into a gown. Lockers are provided, so you can secure your clothes and other belongings. Your family member/friend may wait for you in the waiting room.
  - The nurse will start an intravenous (IV) line to provide fluids and sedation.

- **During your procedure:**
  - You will lie on your left side on a cart 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.

Often a biopsy (a tiny piece of tissue) is taken for microscopic examination. This should not cause you discomfort.

**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 drugs or anti-coagulants (blood thinners).
- Please call your doctor if you have vomiting, difficulty swallowing, bleeding, temperature elevation of 101 degrees or greater or severe abdominal pain that does not go away after you pass gas.

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

**QUESTIONS PRIOR TO TESTING:** Please call the Aultman Outpatient Department at 330-363-2511 between the hours of 8 a.m. and 3 p.m.

**REGISTRATION:** Pre-registration is required for an accurate medical record and proper billing. Please call Aultman Centralized Scheduling department at 330-363-6318 between the hours of between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. to pre-register.

**DIRECTIONS:** Report to the second floor of the main hospital. Park in the Seventh Street parking deck, or use the Seventh Street valet services. Take the elevator to the second floor, and follow the signs to the “Outpatient Department.” Sign in at the registration desk, and have a seat in the waiting room.
**PARKING:** Free visitor parking is available in Lot 3 across from the Bedford building; enter from Sixth Street. Valet parking is available at the Seventh Street and Bedford building entrances for a $5 fee – or free if you are a handicapped motorist or making a newborn pickup. Deck parking is also available for a fee, based on your length of stay.