



---

PATIENT & CAREGIVER EDUCATION

# About Your Esophageal Manometry

This information will help you get ready for your esophageal manometry (ee-SAH-fuh-JEE-ul muh-NOM-uh-tree) procedure at MSK.

An esophageal manometry measures how your esophagus (food pipe) works. This is done to find out why you have symptoms such as trouble swallowing or pain when swallowing. It is also done to find out why you have chest pain.

If you are having anti-reflux surgery, you may have an esophageal manometry within the month before.

You do not need general anesthesia for this procedure. General anesthesia is medication to make you fall asleep during surgery.

## 1 Week Before Your Procedure

### Ask about your medications

Talk with your healthcare provider if you take any of the medications in this section. You might need to take a different dose (amount). You might need to stop taking some of them before your procedure. These can affect your procedure or results.

**Do not change your dose or stop taking your medications without talking with your care team first.**

# Anticoagulants (blood thinners)

Blood thinners are used to treat blood clots. They are also used to prevent a heart attack or stroke.

Examples of common blood thinners are listed below. There are others, so be sure your care team knows all the medicine you take. **Do not stop taking your blood thinner without talking with a member of your care team.**

- Apixaban (Eliquis®)
- Aspirin
- Celecoxib (Celebrex®)
- Cilostazol (Pletal®)
- Clopidogrel (Plavix®)
- Dabigatran (Pradaxa®)
- Dalteparin (Fragmin®)
- Dipyridamole (Persantine®)
- Edoxaban (Savaysa®)
- Enoxaparin (Lovenox®)
- Fondaparinux (Arixtra®)
- Heparin (shot under your skin)
- Meloxicam (Mobic®)
- Nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs), such as ibuprofen (Advil®, Motrin®) and naproxen (Aleve®)
- Pentoxifylline (Trental®)
- Prasugrel (Effient®)
- Rivaroxaban (Xarelto®)
- Sulfasalazine (Azulfidine®, Sulfazine®)
- Ticagrelor (Brilinta®)
- Tinzaparin (Innohep®)
- Warfarin (Jantoven®, Coumadin®)

## **Benzodiazepines**

Benzodiazepines (BEN-zoh-dy-A-zeh-peens) are used to treat anxiety, sleep disorders, and seizures. Examples include alprazolam (Xanax®) and diazepam (Valium®).

## **Antispasmodics**

Antispasmodics (AN-tee-spaz-MAH-dik) are used to help manage muscle problems such as muscle spasms. Examples include methocarbamol (Robaxin®), tizanidine (Zanaflex®), and cyclobenzaprine (Flexeril®).

## **Opioids (narcotics)**

Opioids (also called narcotics) are used to treat pain. Examples include oxycodone (OxyContin®), hydrocodone with acetaminophen (Vicodin®), and tramadol (Ultram®).

## **Promotility agents**

Promotility (proh-moh-TIH-lih-tee) agents help empty your stomach more quickly. Examples include metoclopramide (Reglan®), erythromycin (E.E.S.®), domperidone (Motilium®), and prucalopride (Motegrity®).

## **Diabetes care**

You may need to take a different dose of diabetes medication than usual. This includes insulin and other diabetes medications. Ask the healthcare provider who prescribes your medication what to do the morning of your procedure.

## **3 Days Before Your Procedure**

An endoscopy nurse will call you 3 days before your procedure. They will confirm the type of procedure(s) you are having. They will go over your instructions with you.

The nurse will ask questions about your medical history and the medications you take.

## 2 Days Before Your Procedure

You may need to stop taking the following medications 2 days before your procedure.

- Benzodiazepines
- Antispasmodics
- Opioids (narcotics)
- Promotility agents

**Remember, do not change your dose or stop taking your medications without talking with your care team first.**

## 1 Day Before Your Procedure

### Note the time of your procedure

A staff member will call you after noon (12 p.m.) the day before your procedure. If your procedure is scheduled for a Monday, they will call you on the Friday before. If you do not get a call by 7 p.m., call 212-639-5014.

The staff member will tell you what time to get to the hospital for your procedure. They will also remind you where to go.

Write in your appointment time below.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Call the healthcare provider who scheduled your procedure if you need to cancel for any reason.

## Instructions for eating and drinking: 8 hours before your arrival time



- **Stop eating 8 hours before your arrival time, if you have not already.**
  - Your healthcare provider may tell you to stop eating earlier. If they do, follow their instructions.
- 8 hours before your arrival time, do not eat or drink anything except these clear liquids:
  - Water.
  - Soda.
  - Clear juices, such as lemonade, apple, and cranberry juices. Do not drink orange juice or juices with pulp.
  - Black coffee or tea (without any type of milk or creamer).
  - Sports drinks, such as Gatorade®.
  - Gelatin, such as Jell-O®.

You can keep having these until 2 hours before your arrival time.

## The Day of Your Procedure

### Instructions for drinking: 2 hours before your arrival time



**Stop drinking 2 hours before your arrival time.** This includes water.

## **Things to remember**

Only take the medications your care team told you to take the morning of your procedure. Take them no later than 2 hours before your arrival time. You can take them with a few small sips of water. Do not drink anything starting 2 hours before your scheduled arrival time.

## **What to bring**

- A list of the medications you take at home.
- Medication for breathing problems (such as an inhaler), if you take any.
- Medication for chest pain, if you take any.

## **Where to park**

MSK's parking garage is on East 66<sup>th</sup> Street between York and 1<sup>st</sup> avenues. If you have questions about prices, call 212-639-2338.

To get to the garage, turn onto East 66<sup>th</sup> Street from York Avenue. The garage is about a quarter of a block in from York Avenue. It's on the right (north) side of the street. There's a tunnel you can walk through that connects the garage to the hospital.

There are other parking garages on:

- East 69<sup>th</sup> Street between 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> avenues.
- East 67<sup>th</sup> Street between York and 1<sup>st</sup> avenues.
- East 65<sup>th</sup> Street between 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> avenues.

## **Where to go**

Your procedure will take place in the Endoscopy Suite at MSK, located at:

1275 York Avenue (between East 67<sup>th</sup> and East 68<sup>th</sup> Streets)  
New York, NY 10065

Take the B elevator to the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor. Turn right and enter the Endoscopy/Surgical Day Hospital Suite through the glass doors.

## **What to expect when you arrive**

Many staff members will ask you to say and spell your name and birth date. This is for your safety. People with the same or a similar name may be having a procedure on the same day.

## **During your procedure**

A staff member will bring you into the procedure room. A member of your care team will put an anesthetic (numbing) gel in your nose. They will do this with a cotton swab (Q-tip®).

Your doctor will pass a thin tube through your nose once your nose is numb. The tube will go into your stomach. You might have some mild gagging or discomfort. These feelings will go away quickly.

Your doctor will ask you to swallow small sips of water once the tube is in place. The muscles in your esophagus will contract (tighten) as you swallow. The tube will measure how strong the contractions are in different parts of your esophagus.

Your care team will take out the tube after your procedure is done. Your procedure will take about 15 minutes.

## **After Your Procedure**

You can leave the hospital right after your procedure. You do not need to follow any special instructions.

## **When to Call Your Healthcare Provider**

Call your healthcare provider if:

- You have a fever of 101 °F (38.3°C) or higher.
- You have trouble swallowing.
- You have pain in your chest.
- You have pain in your abdomen (belly).
- Your abdomen feels harder than usual or is bloated (swollen).
- You feel nauseous (like you're going to throw up) or you vomit (throw up).
- You have a very bad nosebleed or a nosebleed that does not stop.



- You have any unexplained or unexpected problems.

If you have questions or concerns, contact your healthcare provider. A member of your care team will answer Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Outside those hours, you can leave a message or talk with another MSK provider. There is always a doctor or nurse on call. If you're not sure how to reach your healthcare provider, call 212-639-2000.

For more resources, visit [www.mskcc.org/pe](http://www.mskcc.org/pe) to search our virtual library.

---

About Your Esophageal Manometry - Last updated on May 17, 2022

All rights owned and reserved by Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center