

Upper Gastrointestinal Endoscopy

Information for patients, parents
and carers



Leeds Children's
Hospital



Clarendon
Wing



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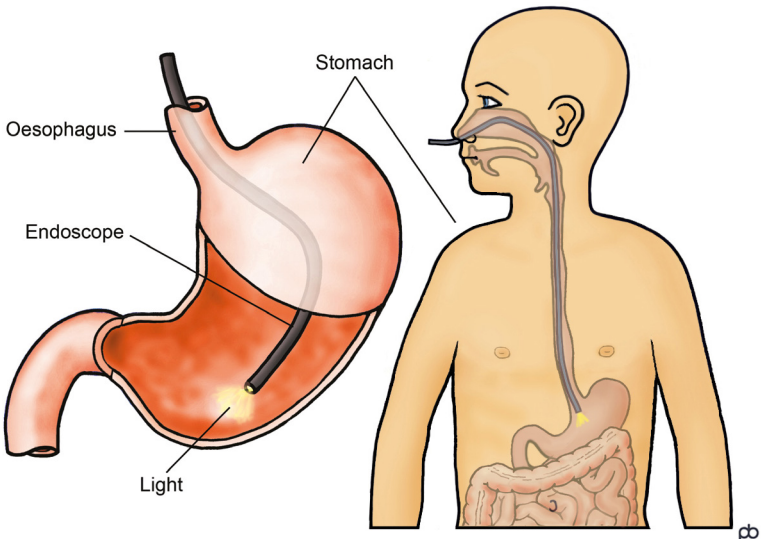
caring about children

What is an Upper GI Endoscopy (OGD)?

Upper GI endoscopy, also called OGD (oesophago-gastro-duodenoscopy), 'gastroscopy' or simply an 'endoscopy', is a test which allows the doctor to look directly at the lining of the oesophagus (the gullet), the stomach and around the first bend of the small intestine - the duodenum. In order to do the test, an endoscope camera is passed through your mouth into the stomach.

The endoscope is a thin flexible tube with a bright light and video camera at the end. The endoscopist gets a clear view of the lining of the stomach and can check whether or not any disease is present. Sometimes the endoscopist takes a biopsy - a sample of the tissue for analysis under the microscope in the laboratory, the tissue is removed painlessly through the endoscope using tiny forceps

The test, including the anaesthetic and recovery time may take about 45-60 minutes.



Why does my child need a upper GI endoscopy?

Your child needs this test so that the doctors can check the lining of the gullet, stomach and first part of the small intestine and take biopsies to confirm or discount particular diagnoses. Biopsies removed, can then be sent to the pathologist to see if the cause of your child's symptoms can be found.

What are the risks of the endoscopy?

Complications are very rare.

These may include:

- 1. Injury to teeth;** every precaution will be taken to prevent this.
- 2. Temporary sore throat** - this usually settles after a few days.
- 3. Bleeding** -There may be a little bleeding if a tissue sample has been taken and usually settles spontaneously. Very occasionally there may be significant bleeding which may require further intervention to stop it.
- 4. Perforation** (hole in the bowel wall) - this occurs less frequently than one for every 1000 procedures.

You will have received a letter to inform you of the date and time of the procedure. **It is important that you telephone to confirm whether your child will be able to attend the hospital on this occasion.** The contact number is on your admission letter. If you have any further queries before surgery please contact this number.

How long will it take to get the results of the test?

Before leaving the hospital the doctor will give you a provisional report of what they may or may not have seen. If biopsies have been taken you will be sent an out patient appointment for the results to be given and discussed. It can take a few weeks to get results from the pathologists. However, if there is a need to start on a new treatment before the appointment the hospital will contact both you and your GP with details.

On the day of the endoscopy

It is important to make sure your child does not forget they are not allowed anything to eat on the morning you come into hospital. Please note that they will be allowed a drink of dilute juice or water before leaving home. If you are planning to arrive at the hospital at 07.30am they can have this drink up until this time, if you are planning to arrive at 12 they can have their last drink at 12.30pm. If you are travelling a long distance it is useful to take a drink to have on the way

You will meet with the doctor who is doing the procedure who will obtain a consent from the parents/ carers. You will also be seen by the anaesthetist.

What happens afterwards?

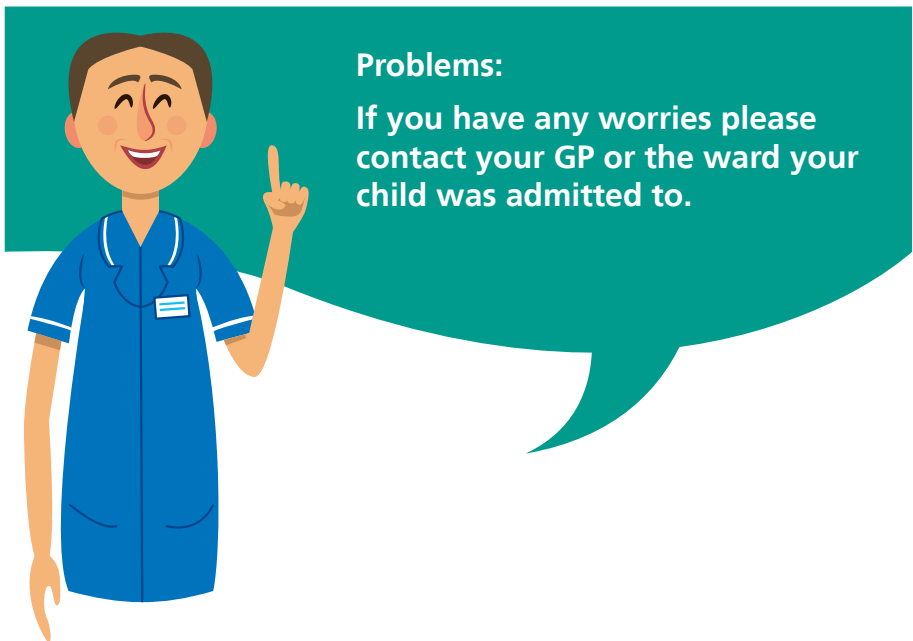
Once your child is awake and able to sit up on their own, he or she will be able to eat and drink. The nurses on the ward will arrange any medicines for home and give you the relevant contact details. The surgeon will see you and your child to explain the findings and start any treatment if indicated.

Advice after the endoscopy

Pain: Some children may suffer from a sore throat or discomfort when swallowing after an endoscopy. Mild pain relief like paracetamol (Calpol, Disprol) can be given as appropriate.

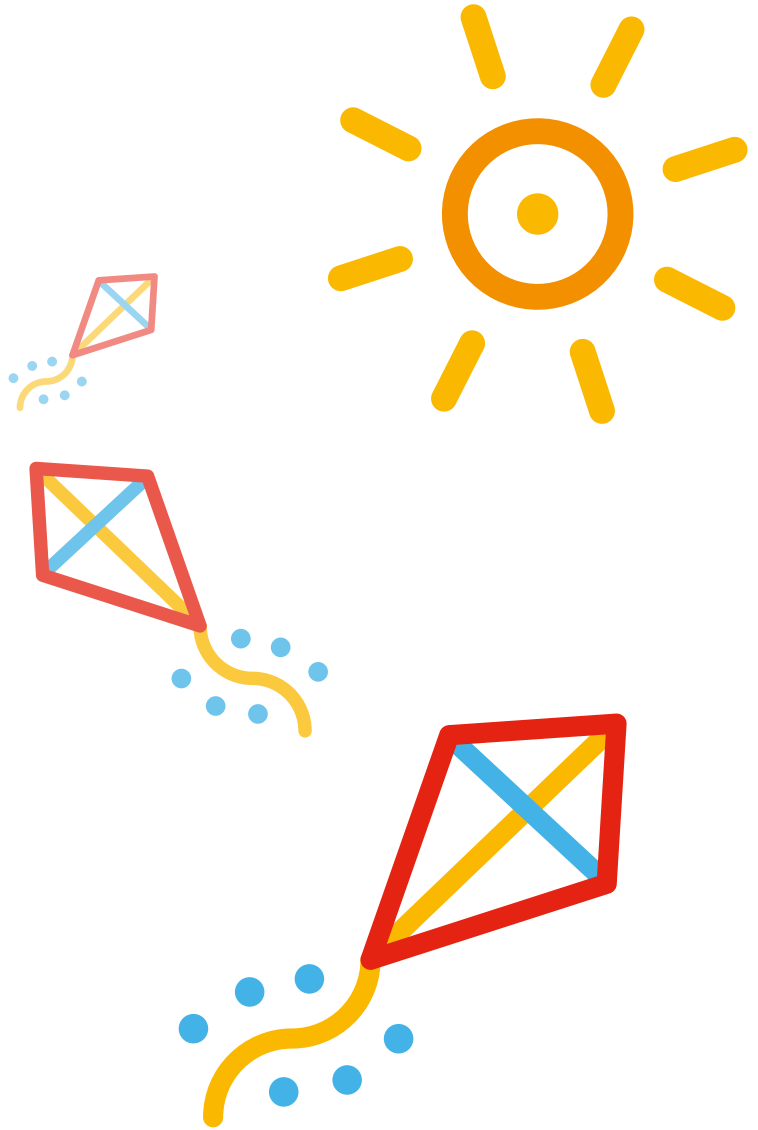
Vomiting: Vomiting is common following a general anaesthesia . Some children may need to be observed longer in hospital and occasionally may need admission for overnight stay. If your child is sick whilst at home, offer them small amounts of weak juice. However, if the vomiting persists then please contact your GP or the hospital.

School: General anaesthetics can wear off slowly making your child dizzy. Please watch your child carefully for the first day at home. If your child is comfortable, they should return to school the next day.



Please note down any questions you may have here

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What did you think of your care?

Scan the QR code or visit bit.ly/nhsleedsfft

Your views matter



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