

GUIDE

ENDOSCOPIC RETROGRADE CHOLANGIO- PANCREATOGRAPHY (ERCP)

Appointment:

Date: _____ Time: _____

Campus: _____



The Ottawa
Hospital | L'Hôpital
d'Ottawa

This booklet contains general information which cannot be construed as specific advice to an individual patient. All statements in the booklet must be interpreted by your personal physician/therapist who has the knowledge of the stage and/or extent of your particular medical condition.

This booklet was prepared in joint collaboration with the GI/Endoscopy Unit staff and physicians.

The Ottawa Hospital is a teaching hospital. Residents, fellows and medical students may be involved with your attending physician to discuss your care and treatment.

What You should Do

- Tell your physician if:
 - You are allergic to any drugs or food
 - You take medications
 - You have heart or lung problems
 - You are diabetic
 - You are pregnant or breastfeeding
 - You have glaucoma
 - You are on blood thinners
- Do not eat or drink after midnight on the evening before the procedure. If your appointment is scheduled in the afternoon, you may have a liquid breakfast before 8:00 a.m.
- You are allowed to take bedtime medications. If taking early morning medications or diabetic, check with your physician.
- Bring a list of your medications with you.
- For safety purposes, remove jewellery and body piercings.
- Do not bring valuables (money, jewellery, body piercings, etc.). The Ottawa Hospital does not assume any responsibility for lost or stolen articles.
- Remove nail polish and do not wear perfume.
- Bring your glasses, hearing aid or other prosthetic device.
- Bring your Ottawa Hospital card if you have one

and your Health card (OHIP, Quebec) and come directly to the Unit.

- A family member or friend ***must*** be available to take you home after your procedure. It is unsafe for you to travel by bus. You must make arrangements before you come to the Hospital. Your procedure will be cancelled if you do not have someone to ***accompany*** you home.
- Please bring the telephone number of the person who will take you home when you come to the hospital. Your family member or friend may wait for you in our waiting room or may return home/to work. We will contact that person when you are ready to leave. The Unit closes by 4:30 p.m.
- If you live alone, it is recommended that someone stays with you overnight.
- Arrive 30 minutes before scheduled appointment.

Endoscopic Retrograde Cholangio-Pancreatography (ERCP)

The ERCP is an exam designed to inspect your bile and pancreatic ducts with a flexible tube (a duodenoscope) passed in the duodenum via the mouth and positioned near the ampulla of Vater.

Why This Test?

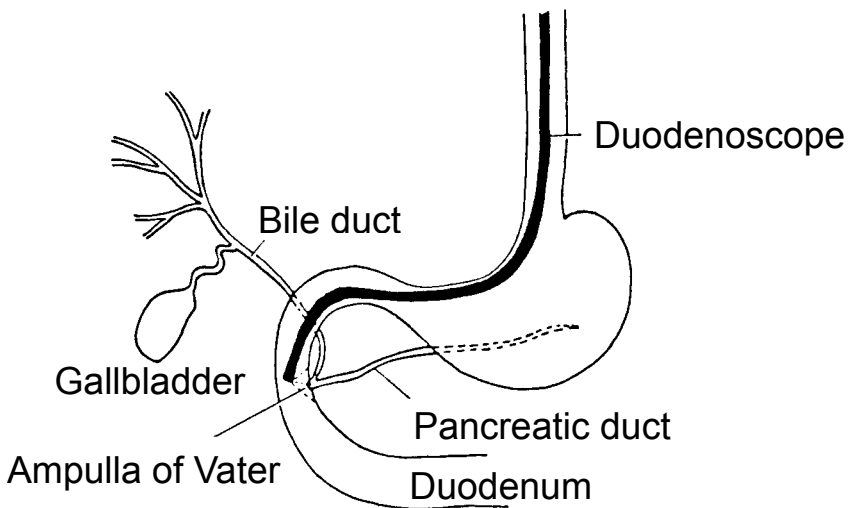
The main goal of ERCP is to introduce a small tube in the Ampulla of Vater (located in the duodenum) so that dye can be injected into the bile and/or pancreatic ducts to obtain X-ray pictures of the ducts. By injecting

dye into the ducts any variation from the normal anatomy can be seen.

Further, if a stone is seen during the examination, the physician may proceed to do a sphincterotomy (the widening of the opening of the Ampulla of Vater) for its removal or place a stent for biliary decompression (hollow tube).

How the Duodenoscope Works

The duodenoscope is an instrument (or tube) that transmits light and images, either through optically from a flexible bundle of fibers, or electronically from a computer chip on the tip of the instrument, back to the viewer. Diagnostic and therapeutic procedures can be performed by inserting other instruments through a hollow section of the instrument.



Before Procedure

A nurse will help you prepare for this test. You will be asked to undress and put on a hospital gown. You will then lie down on a stretcher. The nurse will take your blood pressure and pulse. She will also ask you questions pertinent to your medical history. Last, the nurse will start an intravenous in your right hand preferably.

What Should You Expect During the Procedure

- You will be taken by stretcher to the X-Ray Department where the examination will take place. Your physician, our staff and the radiologist will be with you during the test.
- Your throat will be frozen with a spray.
- You will receive some medication through the intravenous. This will help you to relax.
- The physician will then ask you to swallow the duodenoscope. It is uncomfortable but not painful and it does not interfere with your breathing.
- During the examination, mainly when the X-Ray pictures are taken, the physician will ask you to change position on a few occasions.
- The physician has to put air in the duodenum which may cause bloating.

What Happens After the Procedure

- You may feel bloated after the procedure. Burping to let the air out will bring relief.
- You are taken back to our recovery room in the GI Unit where you will rest. The nurse and/or the physician will tell you when you can leave.
- If additional test or treatment are needed, the physician will discuss it with you.
- Some results are available right away, others take longer. The physician or nurse will make the necessary arrangements before your departure.

On Leaving the Hospital

- You must not drive a motor vehicle, operate hazardous equipment, or make any legal decisions for 24 hours. It is against the law (Criminal Code) to drive a motorized vehicle under the influence of sedative drugs.
- You are advised not to consume alcohol for 24 hours following your procedure.
- You must be accompanied by a responsible adult, even if you are travelling by taxi. It is unsafe for you to travel by bus.
- Follow the instructions given by your nurse and physician.

Directions

General Campus

- Come in by main entrance.
- Turn left.
- Take escalator.
- Turn left.
- Come down to the end of the hall.
- Turn right until you reach Module S.

General Campus – Campus Général

501 ch. Smyth Rd., Ottawa, Ontario K1H 8L6

