



Endoscopy Department
1509 29th Street South
Great Falls, MT 59405
www.gfclinic.com
Phone: (406) 771-3511
Fax: (406) 771-3273

Welcome to Great Falls Hospital Endoscopy Department!

To make your procedure as safe and efficient as possible, please review the enclosed information. If you need to cancel or reschedule your procedure, or have questions, please call (406) 771-3511.

- A nurse will call you prior to your procedure to complete the pre-admission questionnaire.
- Please bring a current list of medication and known allergies with you on the day of procedure. A sheet is included in this packet to help you.

Your procedure is scheduled for (date): _____

Please arrive at _____ a.m / p.m

Your procedure provider is: _____

**Location: Great Falls Clinic Surgery Center
1509 29th Street South
Great Falls, Mt 59405**

Upper Endoscopy Procedure (EGD)

Prior to Procedure:

- 1) Our prior authorization team will work on obtaining procedure authorization through your insurance company. It is still recommended to contact your insurance company to make sure authorization is in place. You may still be responsible for a deductible or co-pay. Plan to bring your insurance card and picture ID with you when checking in for your procedure.
- 2) If you take a blood thinner, such as **Brilinta (ticagrelor), Coumadin (warfarin), Effient (presurgrel), Eliquis (apixaban), Elmiron (pentosan polysulfate sodium), Plavix (clopidogrel), Pletal (cilostazol), Pradaxa (dabigatran), Savaysa (edoxaban), Xarelto (rivaroxaban), etc.**; please contact your primary care provider or cardiologist for instructions as to when or if you should stop this medication.
- 3) Please stop taking the following medications **5 days prior to your procedure**:
 - a. Aspirin (including low dose 81 mg/Baby Aspirin)
 - b. Ibuprofen, Aleve, Advil, Celebrex, meloxicam, and/or other non-steroidal anti-inflammatory medications.
 - c. Vitamin E
 - d. Iron containing medications including multivitamin with iron.
 - e. Fish Oil
 - f. Wegovy, Mounjaro, Ozempic, Byetta, Victoza, Trulicity, and Rybelsus – **hold 7 days prior to procedure**
 - g. Phentermine – **hold 4 days prior to your procedure**
- 4) If you have diabetes, your medication dose may require adjustments. Please contact your prescribing provider for instructions. This includes insulin and oral diabetic medications.
- 5) You will not be able to drive after the procedure or for the remainder of the day. You must have a driver over the age of 18 with you. If using a taxi or similar service, you must have an adult over the age of 18 accompany you. It is recommended that someone stay with you until the next morning. Do not operate machinery, go to work, or sign legal documents for the rest of the day. You should be able to return to work the next day.
- 6) Wear comfortable clothing the day of the procedure. Leave all valuables at home. Bring a case if you wear glasses.

Procedure Information:

After check-in, you will be brought back to our pre-op area. A nurse will start an IV and review information with you. An endoscopy nurse will then escort you to the endoscopy procedure room. The surgeon will visit you prior to the procedure to answer any questions you may have. Before the procedure begins, a mouthpiece will be placed in your mouth to protect your teeth from the scope and keep your mouth open. After the mouthpiece is placed, you will be given medication through your IV to induce sleepiness and a relaxed state during the procedure.

While under sedation, a lighted flexible tube will be passed through your mouth into your esophagus, stomach, and the duodenum (the first part of the small intestine). Biopsies can be taken, if necessary, but you will not feel this during the procedure. You will be monitored closely throughout the procedure. While in recovery, the surgeon will speak with you about findings. Your driver can sit with you during recovery if you desire.

