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Date: _____

Description, Benefits, Alternatives & Risks of EGD (Esophagogastroduodenoscopy)

PROCEDURE DESCRIPTION

An EGD is a procedure in which your doctor will examine the lining of your upper gastrointestinal tract and identify and potentially treat any abnormalities that are found. A needle for IV medicines will be placed in your arm prior to the procedure. Medicine will be injected through this needle that will make you sleepy and relaxed. Your blood pressure, respirations, pulse, and oxygen levels will be monitored throughout the procedure. Your doctor may spray your throat with a numbing medicine to relax your gag reflex. As you lie on your left side, a small mouthpiece will be placed between your teeth. Your doctor will gently pass a flexible fiber optic tube (scope) through your mouth into your esophagus (food tube), stomach and first part of the small intestine examining the lining for any abnormalities. You may experience some cramping and gas due to the air your doctor is putting in during the procedure. Your doctor may take tissue samples (biopsy) by passing small instruments through the scope. Therapies/treatments may be performed during an EGD include, but are not limited to:

1. Dilatation – stretching narrowed areas by passing special instruments.
2. Hemostasis – stopping/controlling bleeding with special instruments and/or medicines.
3. Feeding tube placement – placing a special feeding tube through the stomach wall.
4. Removal of foreign objects – passing special instruments to retrieve objects.

After the procedure, you may feel drowsy and sleep for a short time. You may feel bloated from the air inserted during the procedure. You will be encouraged to expel the air prior to departure. Your doctor will discuss the findings with you and your family before you leave.

RISKS

The risks of an EGD include, but are not limited to, bleeding which may require transfusions, perforation (puncture, tear or hole in the stomach, esophagus or duodenum) which may require surgery, and possible sedation reaction.

BENEFITS

The direct visualization of the upper GI tract allows us to obtain specimens as necessary and perform therapies as discussed above.

ALTERNATIVES

A possible alternative to an EGD is an upper GI X-ray series which is performed by a radiologist and provides images of the upper GI tract. While the images allow us to check for some abnormalities, they do not allow for the detection of mucosal lesions, Barrett's esophagus, and Helicobacter pylori, or for any of the therapies and treatments outlined above.

I have read, or had read to me, this education & consent form.

Patient Signature & Date _____



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