



Capsule Endoscopy

Testing Locations	
Columbia St. Mary's Milwaukee 2301 N Lake Drive Milwaukee, WI 53211	River Woods Outpatient Center 375 W. River Woods Parkway Glendale, WI 53212

What is a Capsule Endoscopy?

A diagnostic, noninvasive study which takes pictures of the small bowel. This study aids in diagnosing bleeding, anemia, abdominal pain, ulcers, tumors, and malabsorption.

What happens during a Capsule Endoscopy?

- You will be taken into an exam room, and your health history and medications will be reviewed.
- You will be asked the last time you ate and drank anything.
- A sensory belt will be placed on your abdomen which is connected to a recorder.
- You will swallow a capsule that houses a light source and camera.
- As the camera moves through the GI tract, the camera will take 2 pictures per second and transmit those pictures to the recorder.

How do I prepare for the test?

- The day before your procedure, you can have a light breakfast, and then you will only be allowed a clear liquid diet the entire day.
- Do not eat any solid food or drink fluids for 8 hours prior to your capsule endoscopy
- Wear a thin shirt without metal as the sensory belt will be fitted outside of this.
- Please arrive 10 to 15 minutes before your appointment time.

Do I need to have someone drive me to and from the testing location?

No, you may drive yourself to and from the appointment.

Should I take my medications on the day of the test?

You may take morning pills no later than 2 hours prior to your appointment. You will be able to take your medications 4 hours after swallowing the capsule. Consult your gastroenterologist if you have concerns.

How long does the test take and how long will I be at the testing location?

You will be at the GI Lab for about 30 to 45 minutes. You will wear the recording equipment for 8 hours at home or at work.

Are there any instructions I need to have or follow after the test?

- Do not eat or drink anything 2 hours after swallowing the capsule.
- After 2 hours you may drink clear liquids. Stay away from red, orange or dark liquids.
- 4 hours after swallowing the capsule you may eat a light meal and take oral medications.
- Check that the green led light is blinking. If it stops note the time and contact the GI Lab.
- After 8 hours return to the GI Lab to return the recording equipment

How do I get my test results?

The doctor who ordered the test will review the pictures and contact you with your results.

On the day of your test, please let your caregiver know about:

- Allergies
- Medications that you are taking
- Possibility of pregnancy
- Troubles swallowing
- History of Bowel Obstruction
- If you have a pacemaker or defibrillator
- Diabetes

Other Information I need to know:

- You may go to work if your job does not include heavy manual labor or working in a magnetic field.
- Do not exercise
- Do not have an MRI unless you know for sure the capsule has passed. If there is a question you should have an abdominal X-Ray.
- You may see the capsule after it passes, do not retrieve it.
- If you see anyone wearing the same equipment as you do not go near them. It may cause interference with the studies.
- Questions or concerns please contact you gastroenterologist.

- **Please follow all the test instructions to ensure that your test can be done as scheduled and with optimum results.**
- **Your appointment is very important to us. If you need to cancel, please notify us the day before your test or as soon as possible.**
- **If you have questions about the information in this guide or not sure which patient information guide is right for you, please call your doctor.**