

ASSOCIATES IN GASTROENTEROLOGY & LIVER DISEASE

PILLCAM PATENCY CAPSULE PROCEDURE

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Appointment Date _____ Appointment Time _____ AM/PM

Location: Lake Forest Office—800 N. Westmoreland Rd., Suite 102, Lake Forest, IL 60045

Your physician has determined that as part of your medical evaluation you should undergo a Patency Test with the PillCam Patency capsule. This procedure involves ingesting a small dissolvable capsule. If the capsule leaves the body before it dissolves, this confirms that your GI tract is passable or “patent” for an object the size of the PillCam capsule.

The PillCam Patency capsule consists of dissolvable components, surrounding a tiny Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) tag that can be detected by X-ray. The capsule starts to dissolve about 30 hours after ingestion. You will be instructed to return to the hospital close to but no later than 30 hours after ingesting the capsule to test whether the capsule is still present in you body. If the capsule is not detected, implying that it has been excreted whole, this means that your GI tract is patent, however, it is common that patients retain the capsule for more than 30 hours.

If the capsule is retained for more than 30 hours, it will then dissolve into small pieces that can pass naturally through your GI tract. However, in case you have a narrowing of the small bowel, the capsule can get stuck at the point and lead to bowel obstruction. If the capsule takes time to disintegrate, you may need to be admitted to the hospital for management of your symptoms and you may even require surgical procedures to resolve the issue.

DURING THE WEEK PRIOR TO THE PATENCY TEST UTILIZING THE PILLCAM PATENCY CAPSULE

- Make note of the frequency of your bowel movements. Do you have a bowel movement at least once a day? Once every two days? Once every three days for more? Note frequency of bowel movements to your physician.
- Prepare a list of all medication you are currently taking.

THE DAY BEFORE THE PILLCAM PATENCY CAPSULE PROCEDURE

- Liquid diet for lunch through dinner the day prior.
- Full fast (no drink or food) 12 hours prior to exam starting at 8:00 PM. You may take sips of water for necessary medications.
 - No medications 2 hours before PillCam Patency ingestion, with the exception of the Erythromycin 250mg one hour prior to appointment
 - **Special instructions:**
 - No narcotics or medication that slow peristalsis
 - Do not stop anticoagulants (Plavix, Coumadin, Aspirin, Advil, Aleve, Ibuprofen, or Motrin)
 - Diabetics adjust their medications – this varies by physician/office (see page 2)
- Your physician may order an additional laxative or pro-kinetic.

DAY OF PILLCAM PATENCY CAPSULE PROCEDURE

- Arrive at your physician's office at the prescribed time for your PillCam Patency capsule.
- At your physician's office, you will have a pre-procedure interview. During this interview you should be informed that PillCam Patency capsule is associated with a small chance of intestinal obstruction.
- You will be checked-in and asked to give your informed consent and an appointment for an X-ray will be made to check capsule presence.
- A written order for an abdominal X-ray will be given to you to check for capsule presence.
 - **The X-ray needs to be done close to but no later than 30 hours after ingesting the capsule.**

AFTER INGESTING THE PILLCAM PATENCY CAPSULE PROCEDURE

- After ingesting the PillCam Patency capsule, do not eat or drink for at least 2 hours. After 4 hours you may have a light snack. That evening you may return to your normal diet. The above instructions related to eating apply, unless your physician specifies otherwise.
- After ingesting the PillCam Patency capsule and until it is excreted, you should not be near any source of powerful electromagnetic fields such as one created near an MRI device.
- PillCam Patency capsule procedure lasts approximately 30 hours and is considered complete according to your physician's instructions.
- You should also record the time and nature of any event such as eating, drinking, your activity and unusual sensations. Also record the frequency of your daily bowel movements.
- Contact your physician immediately if you suffer from any abdominal pain, nausea or vomiting during Agile Patency capsule procedure.

IF YOU ARE DIABETIC – PLEASE INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING DIRECTIONS

Insulin Users

1. **The day prior to your test** — take ½ of your insulin dose in the morning (which is the day of the clear liquid diet).
2. **The day of the test** — four hours after swallowing the capsule you may eat a light lunch and take ½ of your insulin dose.
3. **The day after the capsule test** — you may resume your normal diet and take your usual insulin dose.

Oral Medication Users

1. **The day prior to your test** — take your usual dose of medication in the morning. Do not take additional evening dose.
2. **The day of the test** — do not take your morning dose.
3. **The day after the capsule test** — you may resume your normal diet and take your usual oral diabetic medication dose.

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