

ERCP (Endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography)

During an ERCP, your doctor inserts a long flexible tube with a camera and a light source through your food pipe and stomach into your small intestine. Your doctor uses a small hollow catheter to inject a special dye into your bile to make it visible on X-ray images. Tiny tools passed through the catheter can be used to remove gall stones, take tissue samples or insert a stent to allow drainage of bile or other fluids.



Archbold
Gastroenterology

Preparation

- Please make sure to follow your provider's instruction regarding your medication.
- You should have **no solid food after midnight** and only clear liquids (like water) **up to 4 hours prior to your arrival time.**
- Always bring a current list of all your medication
- Bring your identification and insurance card
- Leave all your valuables at home
- **Arrange for an adult to drive you home and look after you for 24 hours.**

Procedure and discharge

After check-in, our nurses will take you to the pre-op area as soon as a bay becomes available. You will be seen by your gastroenterologist and anesthesiologist. Our nurses will make you comfortable, enter information regarding your health history into our electronic chart and start your IV. When your intra-op team is ready for you, you will be taken to the procedure room. Your anesthetist will give you anesthesia prior to procedure start. You will sleep through the entire test.

After your procedure you will wake up in the recovery room. You will likely feel sleepy and may be slightly unsteady. You may have a sensation of fullness and a mild sore throat. Post procedure nausea is possible but unlikely. Your gastroenterologist will go over findings with you and your family. Your nurse will give you discharge instructions including signs and symptoms of infection, bleeding and other emergencies.

When you are ready for discharge, your care taker will pull the car into the discharge area and your nurse will take you out in a wheelchair. After departure, you will likely be able to resume your regular diet. You may resume regular activities the day after your test.

