

Advice after an oesophageal dilatation procedure

Endoscopy Department

Last reviewed: April 2025

Next review:

April 2026

Information for Patients

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When can I eat or drink after my procedure?

You must not eat or drink anything for 45 minutes after having a local anaesthetic throat spray. Your throat will be numb and there is a risk of choking. Depending on the procedure performed, some patients cannot eat or drink for 2 hours after the procedure.

We will give you something to eat and drink before discharge. You can continue to eat only soft or liquidised food (no biscuits or toast) for 48 hours. Solid food may get stuck in your food pipe (oesophagus) if any swelling or bruising has not gone down (usually goes down after 48 hours). Avoid eating chunks of meat or pieces of bread at the beginning. Cut or minced food is best. This should be chewed well.

Do not eat or drink until:	
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Do not eat solid food until:	

If you have had sedative medicine:

For 12 hours you should:

be accompanied by a responsible adult.

For 24 hours:

- do not drive a car or ride a bicycle.
- do not drink alcohol.
- do not use any machinery or do anything needing skill or judgement.
- do not make important decisions or sign any documents.
- do not climb ladders.
- do not return to work until after this period of time.

Health information and support is available at www.nhs.uk or call 111 for non-emergency medical advice

Visit www.leicestershospitals.nhs.uk for maps and information about visiting Leicester's Hospitals To give feedback about this information sheet, contact InformationForPatients@uhl-tr.nhs.uk

University Hospitals of Leicester

Patient Information Forum

General advice

- Go home and rest.
- Small amounts of blood thrown up are not of concern.
- General abdominal discomfort and swelling is often due to trapped air.
- Mild chest pain or mild upper abdominal pain is not a concern.

When to get help

You may have a lot of pain if there is a tear (perforation). You should contact the Endoscopy Department where your procedure was carried out, if you have any of the following:

- sudden chest or tummy (abdominal) pain, particularly if it is severe and lasting.
- heavy bleeding.
- vomiting blood.
- passing jet black poo (stool).

If the department is closed, contact your GP or ward 42 at Leicester Royal Infirmary on 0116 258 6284 for advice.

If both are unavailable and you have heavy bleeding and/ or severe pain, go to the Emergency Department or call the NHS helpline on 111 for an ambulance.

We will give you a copy of your endoscopy report in case you need to go to the Emergency Department. You should take this with you.

Endoscopy Department contact details

Endoscopy Department can be contacted Monday to Sunday, 8am to 6pm:

Leicester General Hospital: 0116 258 4183 Leicester Royal Infirmary: 0116 258 6997 Glenfield Hospital: 0116 258 3130

اگر آپ کو یہ معلومات کسی اور زبان میں درکار ہیں، تو براہِ کرم مندرجہ ذیل نمبر پر ٹیلی فون کریں۔ علی هذه المعلومات بلغةٍ أُخرى، الرجاء الاتصال علی رقم الهاتف الذي يظهر في الأسفل જો તમને અન્ય ભાષામાં આ માહિતી જોઈતી હોય, તો નીચે આપેલ નંબર પર કૃપા કરી ટેલિફોન કરો

ਜੇ ਤੁਸੀਂ ਇਹ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਕਿਸੇ ਹੋਰ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਵਿਚ ਚਾਹੁੰਦੇ ਹੋ, ਤਾਂ ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਹੇਠਾਂ ਦਿੱਤੇ ਗਏ ਨੰਬਰ 'ਤੇ ਟੈਲੀਫੋਨ ਕਰੋ। Aby uzyskać informacje w innym języku, proszę zadzwonić pod podany niżej numer telefonu

If you would like this information in another language or format such as EasyRead or Braille, please telephone 0116 250 2959 or email equality@uhl-tr.nhs.uk

