

Esophageal Motility Study after General Anesthesia

Your child has been scheduled for an Esophageal Motility Study at Children's Hospital of Wisconsin. The study will be on _____ at _____ a.m. / p.m.

*A nurse from Day Surgery will call you the day before the test.

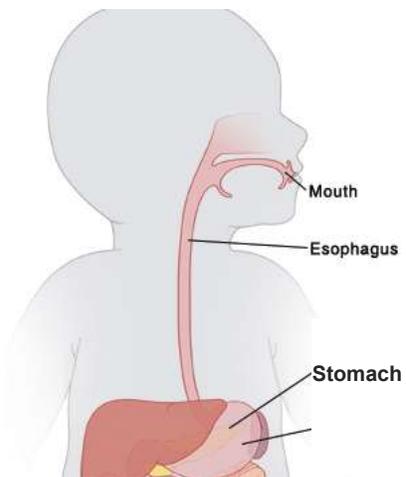
*When you get to the hospital, go to Day Surgery on 4th floor East (4 East Day Surgery 414-266-3536).

What is esophageal motility?

This study measures pressures in the esophagus both at rest and when swallowing. It is done for a child who chokes when eating or has problems with food getting stuck when trying to eat. The study is done to see if the nerves and muscles are working together as they should.

How is the study done?

Your child will be given general anesthesia. Once asleep, a tube called a catheter is put into your child's nose. It is then gently moved into the stomach. Your child will return to day surgery after the catheter is in place. When your child wakes up from anesthesia they may be taken to radiology for the motility study. Or the motility study may be done in Day Surgery. The motility team will discuss this with you.



The catheter is flexible and has many sensors. The sensors in the catheter monitor pressures in the esophagus. As food and liquid move down the esophagus the pressures change. The tube is connected to record the pressure. The tube may be pulled part way out and put back in again 2 to 3 times. The study lasts between 30 and 60 minutes. The tube is then removed, and you and your child may go home.

We will talk with you about your child's diet ahead of time. During the test:

- Your child will be given small sips of water.
- Your child may be asked to eat a small amount of bread or crackers.
- X-rays may be done during the test. For these X-rays, your child will need to drink a barium solution. The solution is like the one given for an upper GI x-ray.

What needs to be done before the test?

Your child's stomach needs to be empty before this test can be done. Your child should not eat any solids or liquids after the catheter is placed. If your child is having other tests or procedures, someone will talk with you about those instructions.

When will I know the results?

Early results will be discussed with you after the test is done. It may take a week or two for doctor's to review the test recordings and have final results. You will be called if the final results differ from the early results. A letter will be sent to the doctor who requested the test.

ALERT: Call your child's doctor, nurse, or clinic if you have any concerns or if your child:

- Is sensitive to any kind of tape. Talk with the nurse when you schedule the test.
- Gets sick with a fever or has an infection 7 days before the test.
- Has special health care needs not covered by this information.

This teaching sheet is meant to help you care for your child. It does not take the place of medical care. Talk with your healthcare provider for diagnosis, treatment, and follow-up.