

DR. ANDREW MERRETT

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CONSULTANT GASTROENTEROLOGIST

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GASTROSCOPY INFORMATION AND CONSENT FORM v. March 2015

Name: (please print) _____ Date of birth: _____

Address: _____

Appointment: date: _____ time: _____

Location: Linacre Private Hospital, Day Surgery Unit, 12 Linacre Road, Hampton. Enquiries to: 9867 5585

The Gastroscopy Test:

A gastroscopy has been recommended to inspect the interior of your oesophagus, stomach and duodenum for diseases including ulcers and cancer. Gastroscopy involves swallowing a thin flexible tube. With the assistance of the anaesthetic swallowing the tube is usually painless and easy. A micro camera in the tube allows a picture to be shown on a video screen. Often samples (biopsies) of approximately 3 mm in diameter are taken from various sites to determine the health of the oesophagus, stomach or duodenum. These samples are later examined under a microscope by a specialist pathologist.

Preparation:

For accurate examination to be achieved the upper gastroenterological tract must be empty. Therefore it is essential that:-

1. you must not eat any food for ten hours prior to the procedure
2. you may drink only water until 6.30 am on the day of the procedure then fast i.e. take nothing by mouth

On the day of gastroscopy bring with you this form signed, private health insurance details and your Medicare Card.

Risks of Gastroscopy:

An intravenous anaesthetic is given to ensure that the procedure is as comfortable as possible. The anaesthetic carries a small risk of reactions to the drugs. This may be more significant if you have another medical condition.

Other diseases including diabetes, heart or kidney disease or the use of anticoagulant therapy "blood thinners" may increase the risk of gastroscopy. If these or other serious diseases are suffered a formal consultation should be arranged with Dr. Merrett prior to the procedure.

The risks of serious complications including perforation (the endoscope making a hole) have occurred in Australia from gastroscopy but fortunately are very rare. If you wish to discuss the risks of gastroscopy or the procedure please do not hesitate to make an appointment to discuss these or any related issues further with Dr. Merrett.

Following your Gastroscopy:

You must not drive a car or operate machinery until the day after your test.

You will need to arrange for a friend or relative to escort you home.

Do not consume alcohol, sign legal documents or make important decisions until the following day.

I have read and understand this information.

I wish to proceed with the gastroscopy test and the associated anaesthetic.

Signed: _____

Name: (please print) _____ Date: _____

Witness: Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____