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Gastroscopy or OGD

Patient Information

Dr Corbett has decided that a gastroscopy is required to check your symptoms or to confirm a diagnosis.

A gastroscopy is a procedure where a thin, flexible tube called an endoscope is used to look inside your oesophagus (gullet), stomach and first part of the small intestine. The endoscope has a light and a camera at one end and can send images of the inside of your oesophagus, stomach and small intestine to a monitor.

The procedure will not take long – usually less than 10 minutes – it might take longer if biopsies are taken or if it is being used to treat a condition. It is usually carried out as an outpatient procedure, which means you do not have to spend the night in hospital.

Before the procedure your throat will be numbed with a local anaesthetic spray. You can also choose to have a sedative if you prefer but this will mean you will be drowsy and have reduced awareness about what is happening and will have to stay at the hospital for longer.

Dr Corbett will place the endoscope in the back of your mouth and ask you to swallow the first part of the tube. It will then be guided down your oesophagus and into your stomach. The procedure should not be painful, but it may be slightly uncomfortable or unpleasant at times.

Before your appointment

- All medications should be taken as normal with a little water.
- If you take **Warfarin** please inform Dr Corbett or the hospital as you may need to have an INR test seven days before your procedure.
- If you have **diabetes** please inform Dr Corbett or the hospital.
- If you have any questions about the procedure or find that you cannot keep this appointment, please contact the hospital or Dr Corbett's PA.

On the day

- Have **nothing to eat for six hours and nothing to drink for four hours** before your appointment.

At the hospital

You will be given an arrival time to allow you to be prepared for the procedure. This is usually about half an hour before. Your time at the hospital should be no more than 4 hours. Please ask your admitting nurse for further information during your admission check.

Dr Corbett would then like you to make a follow up appointment with the hospital to see him for the results. If there is anything that needs immediate attention, you will be contacted.