



PATIENT EDUCATION

Ileoscopy

What is an ileoscopy?

An ileoscopy is an endoscopic exam of the lower portion of the small intestine (the ileum). This exam is primarily used to find intestinal bleeding sources.

How do I prepare for this exam?

- Arrange for a driver and someone to be with you for the day. You will not be allowed to drive if you receive sedation.
- All jewelry should be left at home.
- Be sure to let your provider know if you are pregnant before the day of the exam.
- Some of the medicine you take may need to be stopped or adjusted temporarily. You should discuss all blood thinners, insulin, or diabetes medications with the prescribing provider at least 2 weeks before the pH ileoscopy. Do not stop these medications without the content of your provider.
- Be sure to follow the specific diet instructions and bowel preparation instructions given by your provider.

What are the potential complications?

- Undesired effects from sedation.
- Bleeding.
- A tear in the wall of the small intestine.
- If you have any questions, please ask your doctor.

What should I expect before the exam?

- Your doctor will explain the risks and benefits of the exam to you.
- You will sign a consent form for the exam.
- An IV will be put in a vein so that medicine can be given during the exam.
- Dentures and glasses will be removed prior to the exam.
- Be sure to let your doctor know if you are pregnant before the day of the exam.

What should I expect during the exam?

- You will lay on your back.
- The endoscope will be inserted into your stoma and into the ileum.
- Oxygen will be given during the exam.
- Your blood pressure, pulse and oxygen levels will be monitored during the exam.
- Your doctor may choose to take biopsies (small pieces of tissue) during the exam. Taking biopsies and removing polyps will not cause pain.
- If a narrowing is found, your doctor may decide to stretch (open) the narrowing.

What can I expect after the exam?

- Your blood pressure, pulse, carbon dioxide and oxygen levels will be monitored in the recovery area.
- Your family and friends can be with you after the exam.
- You will have oxygen on for a short time while you wake up.
- If you are taking Coumadin, Plavix, or other blood thinners, ask your doctor when to restart those specific medications.
- The nurse will give you written discharge instructions before you leave.

When will I get my results?

- Your doctor will tell you what was found before you go home.
- You will receive your biopsy results in the mail in two to three weeks.
- You may call your doctor's office with any questions or concerns.