

Capsule Endoscopy



Patient Name:

Outpatient Procedure Center (OPPC)

710 Lawrence Expressway, Dept. 240
Santa Clara, CA 95051-5173

Please be at the OPPC at your scheduled time. If you are late, your procedure may be cancelled or rescheduled

Date:

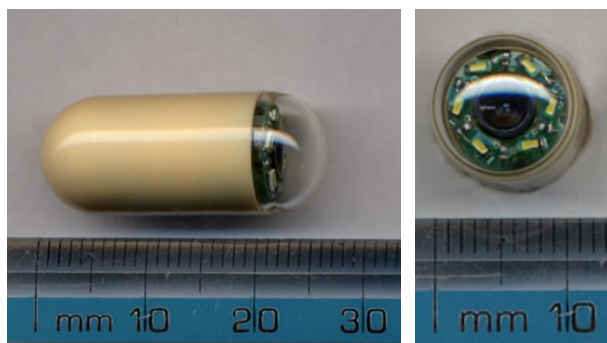
Please bring your member card, picture identification and payment with you.

Arrival Time:

To cancel or reschedule this visit, please call (408) 851-2750 **no later than 72 hours before** your appointment.

General information

Capsule endoscopy is a test that looks at the small intestines. The test involves swallowing a large capsule. The capsule has a small camera that takes many pictures. These images are sent to a recorder that is attached to a belt worn around your waist. The capsule will eventually pass through your stools.



Images courtesy of Wikimedia Commons.

Complications

While this test is considered safe, there is a small risk that the capsule can get “stuck” in your intestines. This may require surgery to remove.

The capsule can also cause a problem with heart devices such as pacemakers, defibrillators or other implanted devices. Other health problems that may prevent you from having the test are: stomach motility or swallowing disorders, small sacs known as diverticula in the upper throat or small intestines, pregnancy, Crohn’s disease and small intestinal strictures.

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The day before the study

- The day before the test, start a clear liquid diet after you have eaten breakfast
- Between 7 and 9 pm, drink ½ the bottle of Gavilyte Solution (approximately 2 liters). Drink 8 ounces (or a large glass) every 15 to 20 minutes (over a 2 to 3 hour period) until half of the bottle is gone. Do not eat any food. Water is okay

Day of the study

- 4 to 5 hours before your appointment, start drinking the rest of the Gavilyte solution. You should finish the last half of the bottle at least 2 hours before your scheduled arrival time.
- Do not eat anything in the morning.
- Do NOT take your morning medications. You can take them when you return home.

After taking the capsule

- After swallowing the capsule, you will be able to return home or work.
- Do not eat for four (4) hours. After 4 hours, you may have a light snack.
- Do not go near any source of strong electromagnetic fields, such as an MRI device or amateur radio. At times, some pictures may be lost due to radio interference that may need a repeat test.
- Do not remove the belt at any time during the day. It should be treated with care as the recorder is sensitive.
- During the test, you will need to check that the small light on the top of the data recorder is blinking. Check it every 15 minutes. If for some reason it stops blinking, record the time and promptly call our staff at (408) 851-9718.

Return to the OPPC at 4:00 pm or as told by the nursing staff

- You should see the capsule pass from your body into your stool over the next 4 to 5 days. If not, please call our office. If the capsule stays in your body, you may need an X-ray to check its location. The capsule cannot remain in the body if you were to need a future MRI test.
- If you have severe stomach pains during the test, please call us and/or seek prompt medical care.
- After the test is done, a doctor will review the pictures and the results will be sent to your referring doctor.