

Upper Endoscopy in Children



What is an upper endoscopy?

An upper endoscopy is a test that allows your doctor to see the inside of the intestine from the mouth to the area past the stomach called the duodenum. Looking inside is made possible by a high quality video chip that works as a camera and sends the images through a soft flexible tube called the endoscope.

When is an upper endoscopy performed?

Upper endoscopy is used to:

- Detect irritation
- Identify a site of bleeding
- Remove swallowed foreign bodies such as coins and pins
- Obtain biopsy samples when food allergy or other damage is suspected

How is the endoscopy performed?

The endoscope is advanced while your child is either sedated or totally asleep. The choice of the sedation will depend on your pediatric gastroenterologist and the institution at which the test is performed.

The endoscopy takes ten to twenty minutes and full recovery can be expected by the end of the day.

Complaints of sore throat or neck pain are usually mild and of no consequence. Your doctor will give you specific instructions to follow after the test.

For more information or to locate a pediatric gastroenterologist in your area please visit our website at: www.naspghan.org

IMPORTANT REMINDER: This information from the North American Society for Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition (NASPGHAN) is intended only to provide general information and not as a definitive basis for diagnosis or treatment in any particular case. It is very important that you consult your doctor about your specific condition.

SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS:

