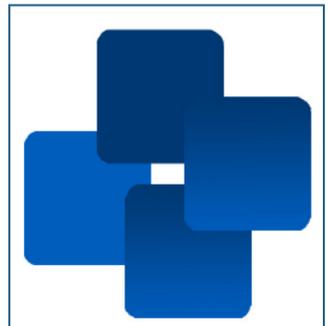


Patency Capsule

Patient Information Leaflet

Endoscopy Unit



What is a Patency (Dummy) Capsule

The Patency Capsule is a pre test before having a Capsule Endoscopy. The Patency Capsule is a small pill that is swallowed by the patient and indicates whether passage through the bowel is clear for further investigation with the Video Capsule.

Why do I need to have a Patency Capsule?

The Patency Capsule will identify any blockages in the bowel that may prevent the Video Capsule from safely passing through the bowel.

What is a Patency Capsule and what does it involve?

The Patency Capsule consists of dissolvable components, surrounding a tiny radio Frequency Identification (RFID) tag that can be detected by X-ray or the Agile Patency Scanner. This procedure involves swallowing a dissolvable capsule.

How long does the test take?

The Capsule starts to dissolve about 30 hours after swallowing. You will be asked to return to the hospital the following day to have an X-ray to check the passage of the Patency Capsule. If the capsule is not detected, this means that it has been excreted whole and therefore it will be safe to take the Video Capsule.

However, it is common for patients to retain the capsule for more than 30 hours, in which case the capsule will dissolve into small pieces that can pass naturally through your intestine.

Are there any risks?

If you have a narrowing of the small bowel, the capsule may get stuck and lead to a bowel obstruction. In this case, you may need to be admitted to the hospital for further investigation to resolve the issue. Surgical removal of the capsule may be necessary, but this is extremely rare.

Before the procedure

You will be contacted by a Specialist Nurse who will ask you questions about your medical history and will explain the procedure and answer any questions you may have. Please ensure that you tell the nurse:

- about any medications you take
- if you have a pacemaker,
- previous abdominal surgery,
- if you have swallowing problems
- about any previous history of obstructions in the bowel.
- if you are diabetic

How to prepare for the procedure?

You may eat and drink normally until midnight before your appointment. After midnight please do not eat or drink at all. Please do not take any medications in the morning before you attend your appointment. Medications may be taken straight after your appointment when you can eat and drink normally.

What Can I Expect During Patency Capsule?

On your arrival at the unit the nurse will ensure that you understand the procedure and answer any questions you may have. When you are satisfied with the information and your questions have been answered you will be asked to sign a consent form. You will then be asked to swallow the Patency Capsule with water.

What happens after ingesting the Patency Capsule?

You may continue with your normal diet and normal activities straight after swallowing the Patency Capsule. You will be given an X-ray form for the following day and told what time you should attend. The X-ray will check to see if you have passed the Patency Capsule successfully. You will receive a phone call to inform you of the outcome.

If you have passed the Patency Capsule successfully you will be advised to go ahead with the Video Capsule Endoscopy.

If the Patency Capsule is retained in your body, the doctor may recommend additional tests to verify capsule location and tracking.

Please Note:

After ingesting the Patency Capsule and until it leaves your body, avoid being near to any source of powerful electromagnetic fields such as an MRI Scanner.

If you suffer from any abdominal pain, nausea or vomiting, whilst undergoing the procedure, contact your doctor immediately or go to the nearest A&E.

www.enherts-tr.nhs.uk

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You can request this information in a different format or another language.