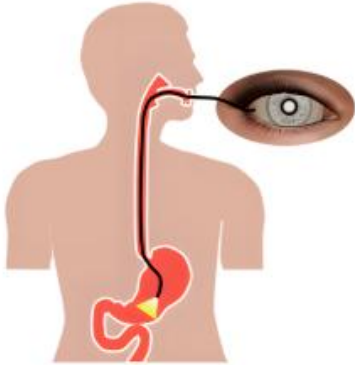
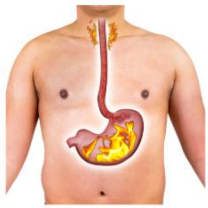




Having a Gastrosocopy



A **gastrosocopy** is a test to look inside your food pipe, stomach, and part of your small bowel.



You might have the test because of problems like **indigestion**, stomach pain, or trouble swallowing.



You need an empty stomach for the test; your letter will say when to stop eating and drinking.





Bring a list of your medicines and any you might need during the test.



Decide if you want **throat spray** or **sedation** for the test. Throat spray numbs your throat, and you stay awake.



Sedation makes you relaxed and a bit sleepy, but you'll need someone to take you home.



On the day of your test, a nurse will check your details and explain what happens.



You'll be asked to sign a **consent form** to agree to the test.



The test uses a thin, flexible tube with a camera called an **endoscope**.



The camera shows pictures on a screen for the doctor or nurse to see.



The test usually takes 5 to 20 minutes.



You might be at the **Endoscopy Unit** for 1½ to 4 hours.





The doctor might take a small piece of tissue, called a **biopsy**, during the test.

A biopsy does not hurt and helps find out what's wrong.



The test has some risks, like bleeding or making a hole in the digestive system.



The test can be uncomfortable. You might feel bloating or discomfort during the test.



If you feel pain or see blood after the test, you should go to the hospital.



The test results go to your doctor and GP. They will discuss the results with you. If you have questions, contact the Endoscopy department.



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Please contact the Patient Support and Complaints Team (PSCT) if you require this leaflet in a different format or would like to feedback your experience of the hospital.

Email ruh-tr.psct@nhs.net or telephone 01225 825656.

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