

# Patency Capsule: After Your Test

## What is a patency capsule?

A **patency capsule** is a capsule that you will swallow to help test the passage through your gastrointestinal (GI) tract.

<b>To contact us during the test, please call:</b>	
<b>You took your capsule at this time:</b>	
<b>You can have clear liquids at this time:</b>	
<b>You can eat at this time:</b>	
<b>You can start taking your normal medications at this time:</b>	
<b>Your test is complete at this time:</b>	

## What happens after I swallow the capsule?

- **2 hours** after you swallow the capsule, you may drink clear liquids and take your medications.

<b>You may drink these liquids:</b>	<b>Do not drink these liquids:</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water</li> <li>• Gatorade®, Pedialyte®, or Powerade®</li> <li>• Coffee or tea (without milk, cream, or non-dairy creamer)</li> <li>• Carbonated or non-carbonated soda</li> <li>• Fruit-flavored drinks</li> <li>• Apple juice, white cranberry juice, or white grape juice</li> <li>• Jell-O (gelatin) or popsicles</li> <li>• Broth</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Any red or purple liquids</li> <li>• Alcohol</li> <li>• Milk, cream, or non-dairy creamer</li> <li>• Juice with pulp</li> <li>• Any liquid you cannot see through</li> </ul>

- **4 hours** after you swallow the capsule, you may eat.
  - We recommend starting with a cup of tea with sugar. This can help stimulate movement in your digestive tract (**motility**).
- **30 hours** after you swallow the capsule, we will give you an abdominal (stomach) x-ray.

### **What rules should I follow during the test?**

During the test (from when you swallow the capsule until you have an x-ray to make sure the capsule has passed), please follow these guidelines:

- Avoid strenuous physical activity (doing anything that causes you to sweat).
- Call us immediately if you have stomach pain, nausea, or vomiting.

### **What happens to the capsule after the test?**

The capsule will naturally pass through your GI tract. You may not even notice it passing. We do not have to remove or retrieve it. You can safely flush it down the toilet.

### **What can I eat after the test?**

You may go back to eating your normal diet after the test.

### **Are there any physical activity restrictions after the test?**

No, you may return to your normal activities immediately after the test.

### **When should I call the doctor?**

Please call us if you develop any of these symptoms:

- Abdominal (stomach) pain
- Nausea or vomiting

## What is the contact information?

- On Monday through Friday between 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM, please call our clinic at (734) 936-9250.
- During non-business hours (evenings, weekends, and holidays), please call (734) 936-6267 and ask to have the on-call gastroenterology (GI) fellow paged.

**If you are unable to reach a doctor and your symptoms are not going away, go to the nearest emergency room (ER) and bring this document with you.**

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