

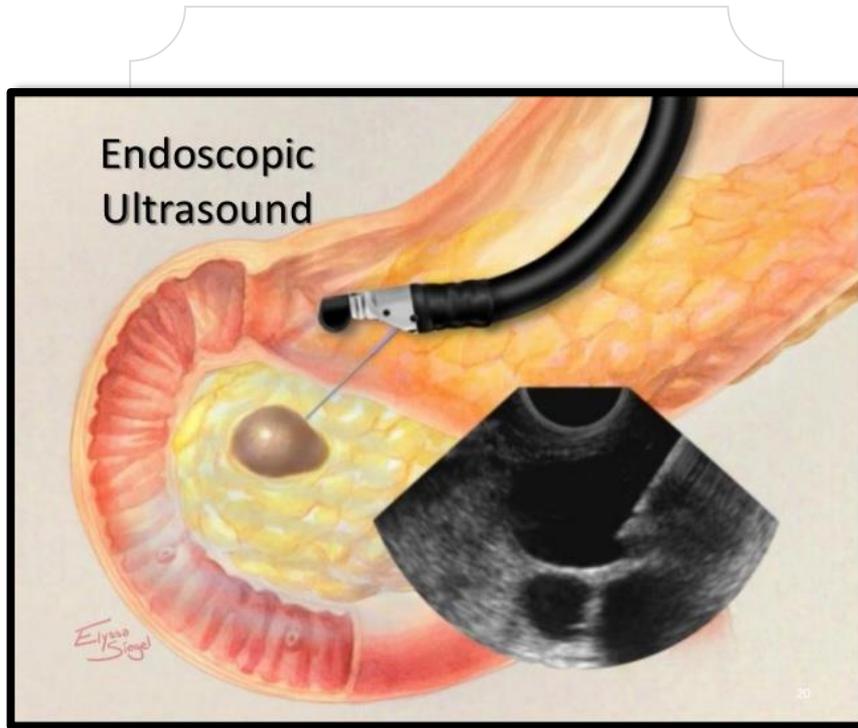


# EXPLANATION TO ENDOSCOPIC ULTRASOUND SCANNING

*The Gastroenterology Institute*  
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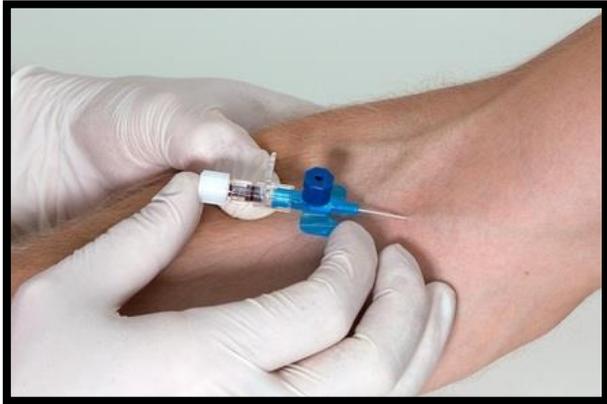


## WHAT IS AN ENDOSCOPIC ULTRASOUND SCAN?



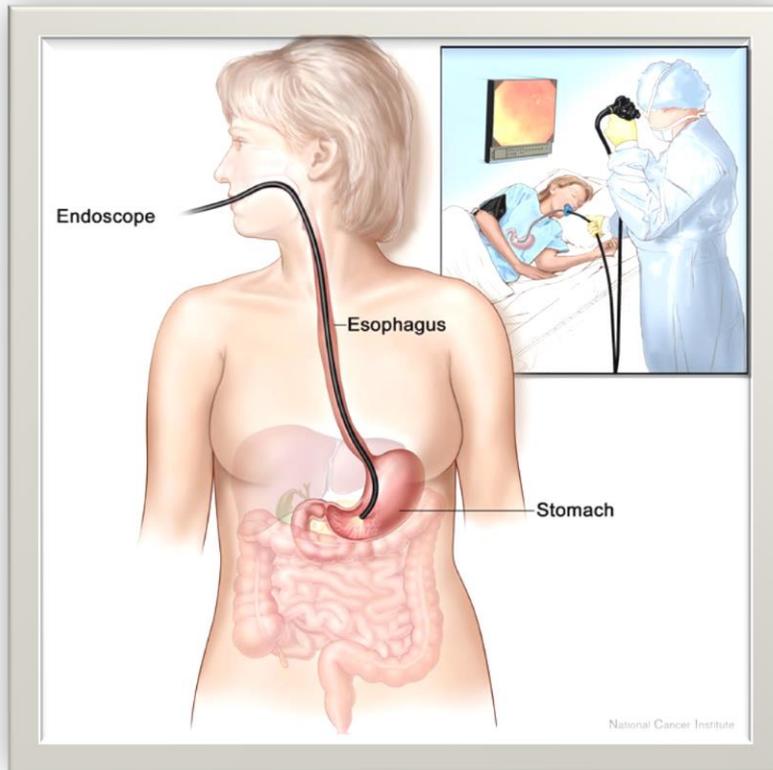
- This is a test that is done by inserting a flexible tube (an endoscope) that has an ultrasound transducer fitted to its end.
- The scan allows the operator to examine the walls of the digestive system and organs near it (such as the pancreas, gallbladder, bile ducts and lymph nodes).
- If necessary, a tissue sample may be taken using a specialized needle.
- Because this procedure involves inserting an instrument into the body, the test requires signing of an informed consent form.

# HOW IS THE TEST DONE?



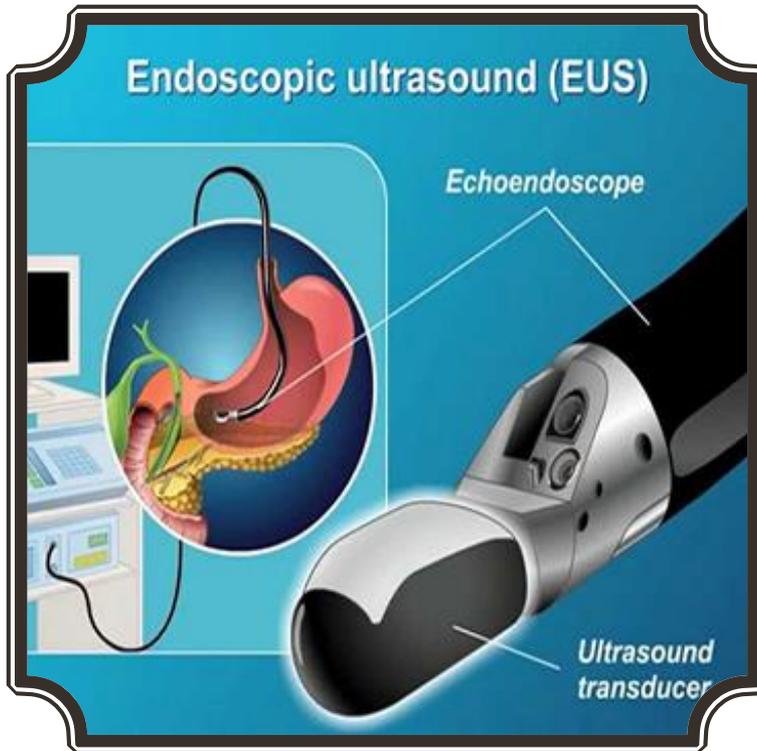
- Before the test, a sedative that causes a brief sleep is injected intravenously.
- The scan is performed with the patient lying on his or her left side, anesthetized.
- A plastic device is placed between the teeth for keeping the patient's mouth open and teeth protected.
- The endoscope is inserted through the mouth.

# COURSE OF THE TEST



- The test takes about 15-30 minutes.
- The patient's breathing and pulse rate are monitored during the test.
- As necessary, tools are inserted through the endoscope for diagnostic or therapeutic purposes (such as a needle for taking a tissue sample)
- After recovering from the test, a report detailing the results is provided.

# COMPLICATIONS RELATED TO THE TEST



Complications of the test are rare, but may occur as a result of the invasive procedure:

- **Damage to loose teeth**
- **Asphyxia and aspiration of saliva**
- **Sore throat after the procedure**
- **Bleeding or rupture that will require surgical intervention**
- **Infection – will require antibiotic therapy**
- **Allergic reaction to the anesthetic**

# HOW TO PREPARE FOR THE TEST



- ✓ The patient must fast, abstaining from eating for 8 hours before the test, and abstaining from water for 3 hours before it.
- ✓ The patient must come with a companion who will stay with him/ her after being discharged from the institute.
- ✓ Because of the sedation, driving is prohibited for 12 hours after the test.

## MORE PREPARATIONS FOR THE TEST



- ✓ Relevant medical documents and a blood test result should be provided: blood count and coagulation functions – PT / INR
- ✓ Patients taking anticoagulants (such as aspirin, Plavix, Coumadin.) should consult their attending physician and the gastroenterologist whether and how to stop their medication before the test.
- ✓ Persons with pacemakers should consult the gastro institute and a cardiologist in advance.
- ✓ A patient under the age of 18 or a patient who is unable to sign for informed consent must have a parent / guardian involved.

# COURSE AFTER THE TEST



- **Supervision in the recovery room under monitoring.**
- **Eating and drinking of lukewarm substances is usually permitted about 60 minutes after the test, unless otherwise decided by the executing physician.**
- **After recovering from the test, a report detailing the results is provided.**
- **The results of a biopsy (if taken) will be given to you 2-3 weeks later.**
- **If after being discharged from the institute, you have signs of fever, swallowing disorders, chest or abdominal pain, you must present to the executing physician or the emergency room immediately.**

**The gastroenterology institute  
staff wishes you the best of health  
and success!**