



# EXPLANATION ON GASTROSCOPY

**Gastroenterology Institute**  
*Hillel Yaffe Medical Center*



המרכז הרפואי  
**הלל יפה**  
מומחים באנשים



# WHAT IS GASTROSCOPY?



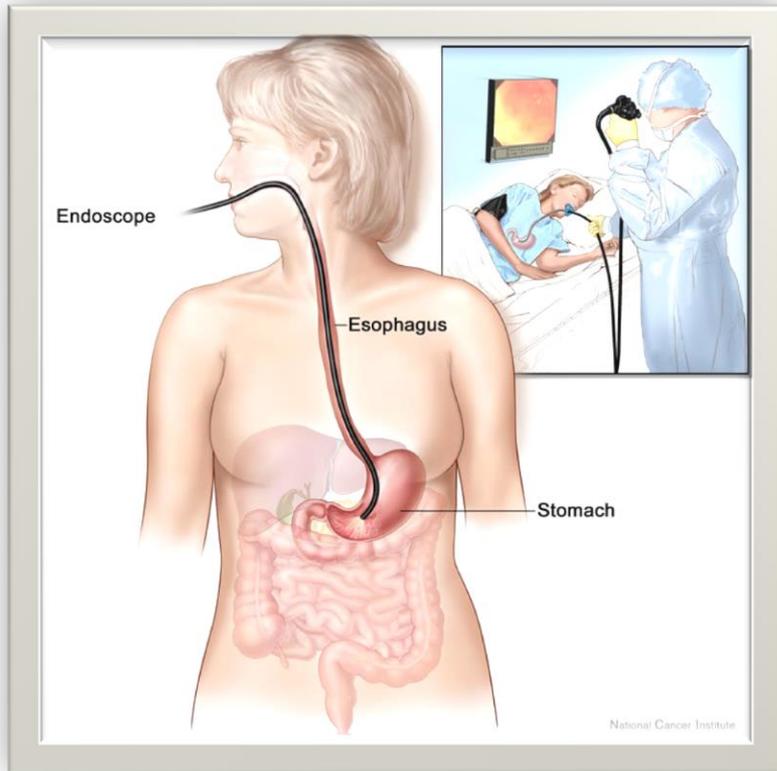
- This is an examination of the upper gastrointestinal system using a flexible tube - an endoscope.
- The endoscopic device allows for internal inspection for diagnosing diseases and for treatment purposes.
- Because this procedure involves inserting an instrument into the body, the test requires signing 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 GASTROSCOPY TEST



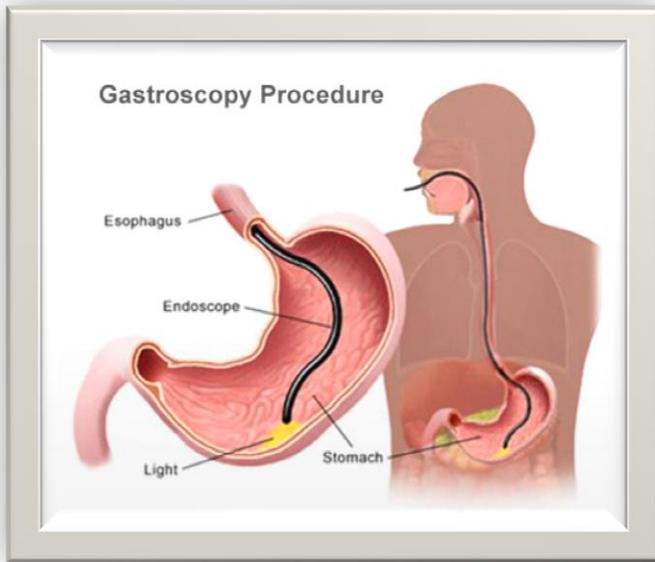
- The test takes a few minutes.
- The patient's breathing and pulse rate are monitored during the test.
- As necessary, tools are inserted through the endoscope for diagnosis or treatment purposes (such as for taking a biopsy for diagnosing the bacterium *Helicobacter pylori*).
- After recovering from the test, a report detailing the results is provided.

# TREATMENTS THAT MAY BE PERFORMED BY ENDOSCOPE



- Taking a biopsy
- Removing polyps
- Cauterizing a bleeding source
- Extracting foreign objects
- Reopening a stenosis (narrowing)
- Treatment of varices
- Inserting a prosthetic tube
- Insertion of a feeding tube
- And more...

# COMPLICATIONS RELATED TO THE TEST



Gastroscopy complications 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**
- **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.
- ✓ You should with a companion who will stay with you after you are discharged from the institute.
- ✓ Because of the sedation, driving is prohibited for 12 hours after the test.

# MORE PREPARATIONS FOR THE TEST



- ✓ Consider discontinuing any anticoagulant (blood thinning) medication a few days before the test, by consulting your physician, according to the background diseases and the type of treatment expected in this 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.**