



## PATIENT EDUCATION

# Ileoscopy

### What is an ileoscopy?

An ileoscopy is an endoscopic exam of the lower portion of the small intestine (the ileum). This exam is primarily used to find intestinal bleeding sources.

### How do I prepare for this exam?

- Arrange for a driver and someone to be with you for the day. You will not be allowed to drive if you receive sedation.
- All jewelry should be left at home.
- Be sure to let your provider know if you are pregnant before the day of the exam.
- Some of the medicine you take may need to be stopped or adjusted temporarily. You should discuss all blood thinners, insulin, or diabetes medications with the prescribing provider at least 2 weeks before the pH ileoscopy. Do not stop these medications without the content of your provider.
- Be sure to follow the specific diet instructions and bowel preparation instructions given by your provider.

### What are the potential complications?

- Undesired effects from sedation.
- Bleeding.
- A tear in the wall of the small intestine.
- If you have any questions, please ask your doctor.

### What should I expect before the exam?

- Your doctor will explain the risks and benefits of the exam to you.
- You will sign a consent form for the exam.
- An IV will be put in a vein so that medicine can be given during the exam.
- Dentures and glasses will be removed prior to the exam.
- Be sure to let your doctor know if you are pregnant before the day of the exam.

### What should I expect during the exam?

- You will lay on your back.
- The endoscope will be inserted into your stoma and into the ileum.
- Oxygen will be given during the exam.
- Your blood pressure, pulse and oxygen levels will be monitored during the exam.
- Your doctor may choose to take biopsies (small pieces of tissue) during the exam. Taking biopsies and removing polyps will not cause pain.
- If a narrowing is found, your doctor may decide to stretch (open) the narrowing.

### **What can I expect after the exam?**

- Your blood pressure, pulse, carbon dioxide and oxygen levels will be monitored in the recovery area.
- Your family and friends can be with you after the exam.
- You will have oxygen on for a short time while you wake up.
- If you are taking Coumadin, Plavix, or other blood thinners, ask your doctor when to restart those specific medications.
- The nurse will give you written discharge instructions before you leave.

### **When will I get my results?**

- Your doctor will tell you what was found before you go home.
- You will receive your biopsy results in the mail in two to three weeks.
- You may call your doctor's office with any questions or concerns.