

ERCP (Endoscopic Retrograde Cholangiopancreatography)

ERCP is a test check the ducts of your gallbladder and pancreas. Ducts are small tubes that let fluid pass from one place to another. These are parts of your digestive tract.

For this test, you will have a flexible tube, called a scope, put through your mouth and throat, into your small intestine. The doctor can look through the scope at the ducts.

A medicine called dye or contrast is put into the ducts of your gallbladder and pancreas and X-rays are taken.

An adult family member or friend needs to come with you to take you home after the test. It is not safe for you to drive or return home alone.

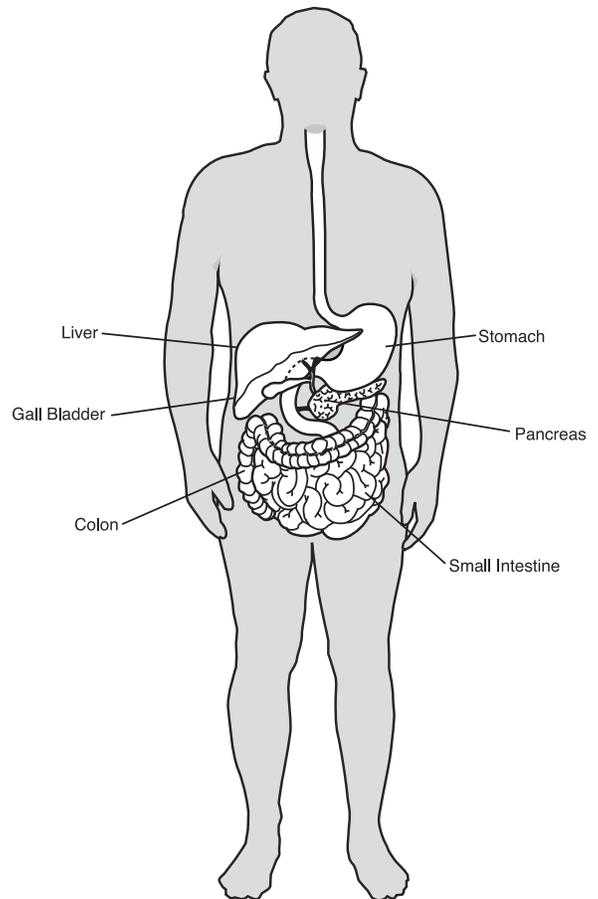
Arrive on time for your test. The test will take about 1 hour. Plan on being here 2 to 3 hours.

To Prepare

- Your stomach must be empty for this test.
- Do not eat or drink anything, smoke or chew gum for at least 8 hours before the test.
- If you are to take your medicines the morning of the test, take them with sips of water only.
- Tell your doctor if you have had any barium X-rays in the past week. Barium may affect this test.
- Before the test, the staff may ask you about:
 - › Your medicines including prescription and over the counter medicines, herbals, vitamins and other supplements
 - › Allergies such as to medicines, foods or latex
 - › Other health conditions and past surgeries
- If you are pregnant, or think you may be pregnant, tell the staff before the test.

During the Test

- You will wear a hospital gown.
- You lie on your left side or stomach.
- An IV (intravenous) is put in a vein in your arm. Medicine is given through the IV to make you sleepy.
- Numbing medicine may be sprayed into your throat to keep you from coughing or gagging.



- The doctor passes the tube through your mouth. You can breathe around the tube.
- Your doctor looks through the tube at the inside of the parts of your digestive tract.
- Dye is put in. You may feel some pain.
- X-rays are taken.
- The tube is removed.

After the Test

- You will stay in the test area until most of the medicine wears off. You will feel sleepy.
- Your throat may be sore for 1 or 2 days.
- You may feel bloated from air in your stomach.
- Your doctor will tell you what you can eat today.
- Medicines given during the test will make you sleepy. You will need to have a family member or friend take you home for your safety.
- Test results are sent to your doctor. Your doctor will share the results with you.

Call your doctor if you have:

- New or increased pain
- Nausea or vomiting
- A continuous cough
- A fever over 100.5 degrees F or 38 degrees C
- Other concerns

Call 911 right away if you:

- Have trouble breathing
- Have chest pain
- Are coughing up or vomiting blood
- Have severe abdominal pain

Talk to your doctor or nurse if you have any questions or concerns.