Esophageal manometry is a test used to assess pressure and motor function of the esophagus (food pipe). In addition, it aids in the evaluation of how well the muscles in the esophagus work to transport liquids or food from your mouth into your stomach. Esophageal manometry may be performed to evaluate the causes of gastric reflux, heartburn, difficulty swallowing and non-cardiac chest pain. In addition, this test may be used in pre-operative evaluation if you are being considered for anti-reflux surgery or to ensure proper placement of pH probes in other diagnostic tests.

**HOW IT WORKS**
The test will be performed by a nurse or technician and generally takes less than 30 minutes. Generally, you will be in a comfortable, semi-reclining or reclining position. Your nose and throat may be numbed with a spray or gel. This will minimize any discomfort associated with the placement of the small catheter through your nose and into your stomach. During this time, you will be able to breathe, swallow and talk with ease. During the test you will be asked to take deep breaths or swallow a number of times. The pressures resulting from these actions will be detected and recorded by tiny sensors located on the catheter. The recording will then be transferred to a report for review and interpretation by your doctor.

**AFTER THE TEST**
You may resume your normal daily activities, diet and medications following your test. Since there is no sedation required, you may drive yourself home after the procedure. If you experience a sore throat, taking lozenges or gargling with salt water may alleviate your discomfort. Please schedule a follow-up visit with your physician to discuss the results of the test. Contact your physician with any unusual symptoms or side effects.

**PREPARATION FOR THE PROCEDURE**

**Food & Drink**
Please refrain from eating and drinking after midnight before your test.

**Medications**
Prior to your test, you should consult with your PCP regarding the prescribed medications you take. Some medications can affect the muscles of your esophagus and alter the results of your test. These medications include pain medications, sedatives, tranquilizers, antispasmodics and promotility medications. Some medications will not affect the procedure and may be continued as per your PCP’s instructions. This includes medications for heart disease, high blood pressure and diabetes.

**It is important that you consult with your PCP regarding all the medications you are taking prior to your procedure.**

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