

## **ERCP GENERAL INFORMATION**

### **What is Endoscopic Retrograde Cholangiopancreatography (ERCP)?**

ERCP is a way to visually examine ducts inside your liver, gallbladder, bile ducts and pancreas through a lighted scope. The doctor may use contrast (dye) to highlight these areas to study them. ERCP may also be used to remove stones or bypass blockages in the bile ducts and pancreas.

### **When is ERCP used?**

Your local doctor may have referred you to our center for this procedure if you have any of the following conditions:

- You have a suspected stone lodged in the common bile duct.
- You have a suspected blockage in one of the bile ducts and are jaundiced (yellowing of the skin).
- You have a sphincter of Oddi that does not operate normally.
- You have unexplained pancreatitis.
- You have a growth of tissue in the bile duct or pancreatic duct.

## **ERCP PREPARATION INFORMATION**

Thank you for choosing Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist – Digestive Health for your upcoming ERCP. Enclosed in your prep packet with all necessary information you will need prior to your procedure. If you have questions after reading this material, please call our Interventional Endoscopy nurse coordinator at 336-713-7315. To ensure you are comfortable during your procedure, sedation medication will be given for the examination. **YOU MAY NOT DRIVE HOME.** You must have a responsible escort 18 years of age or older who stays on site throughout your entire procedure, who can accompany you home and who can stay with you after your procedure. **If your escort does not accompany you to the medical center, you will be asked to reschedule your procedure. You may not go home alone via public transportation, taxi, Uber, Medicaid van, Trans-Aid or any other similar form of transportation.**

Digestive Health is located on the Ground floor (**G**), Reynolds Tower. (See the map which is enclosed.)

## **Important Medication Adjustments**

- **Please continue your regularly scheduled medications (such as blood pressure medications) as usual.**
- If you take blood thinners, diabetes medications (pills and/or injections) please see below.
- **Blood thinning medications** (Plavix, Coumadin, Warfarin, Lovenox, Effient, Pradaxa, Xarelto, Brilinta, Pletal, etc.) may need to be discontinued prior to your procedure. Please contact your prescribing physician and ask if your blood thinner is safe to stop. You may need to be off these medications for 3-5 days prior to your procedure.
- **Do NOT stop Aspirin**
- **Diabetic patients: If you take an oral diabetic pill (“sugar pill”), do NOT take it the day of your procedure. If you are taking insulin, please contact your prescribing doctor for instructions on adjusting your insulin the day before and the day of your procedure.**
- If you take **phentermine** (Aidex-P, Lomaira), please stop this medication **5 days prior** to your procedure.
- **STOP** GLP-1 medications 1 week before procedure (see insert)
- **STOP** Erectile dysfunction/Pulmonary Hypertension medications 5 days before procedure (see insert)

\*\*If your procedure is between **6AM - 11AM**, please have nothing by mouth after midnight before your procedure.

\*\*If your procedure is between **11:30AM - 3PM**, you may have water until **8AM**.

**No Chewing Gum, Hard Candy, Smoking or Chewing Tobacco day of procedure.**