

# Gastroesophageal motility studies

(Esophageal transit gammagraphy, Gastroesophageal reflux gammagraphy and gastric emptying gammagraphy)

## 1. Identification and description of the procedure

Compromises various image diagnostic techniques that have as their purpose the study of the movement (motility) of the esophageal and stomach walls after ingesting a drink or food in which a small amount of radioactive tracer that has been inserted (colloidal sulphur marked with technetium-99m). Technique: After a variable fasting period (2-12 hours, depending on the exploration) the patient ingests a drink/food. After this continuous images are obtained of the esophagus (esophageal transit gammagraphy and gastroesophageal reflux gammagraphy) or of the stomach (gastric emptying gammagraphy) and the passage of the food through these structures is visualized. The duration of the study is variable, depending on the exploration (1-4 hours).

Previously to carrying out the exploration, the corresponding nuclear medicine service personnel will inform you of the procedure and will answer your questions regarding it.

## 2. Purpose of the procedure and benefits that are expected to be achieved

Diagnosis and follow up of pathologies that affect the motility of the esophagus (slowing the emptying and gastroesophageal reflux) and stomach (slowing the intestinal emptying).

It is a simple procedure, easy to perform, sensitive, without discomforts to the patient and useful in the diagnosis of alteration to the esophagus and gastric motility... It supposes a small radiation dose for the patient, much inferior to other radiological techniques.

## 3. Reasonable alternatives to this procedure

There are other image explorations (radiological studies) that visualize the passing of the contrast through the upper digestive system; however it involves larger radiation doses for the patient. Other explorations that intervene in the study of this type of pathologies (manometric studies) offer complementary information.

## 4. Foreseeable consequences of its performance

To contribute to the diagnosis and adequate treatment of the patient.

## 5. Foreseeable consequences of its non performance

Delayed diagnosis.  
Delayed therapeutic decisions.  
Obtainment of an incomplete or incorrect diagnosis.

## 6. Frequent risks

Not described.

## 7. Infrequent risks.

Not described.

## 8. Risks depending on the patient's clinical situation

The exploration is not advised for pregnant women, even though in exceptional circumstances the risk/benefit will be evaluated.

In case of performing the exploration on a woman during lactation, she must interrupt it during a short time period.

During the day of the exploration close contact with small children and pregnant must be avoided.



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## Declaration of consent

Mr./Mrs./Miss. .... aged ..... , with home address at.....  
..... , National Identity No. .... and SIP number  
.....

Mr./Mrs./Miss. .... aged..... , with home address at.....  
..... acting in the capacity of (the patient's legal representative, relative or close  
friend) ..... , with National Identity No. ....

Hereby declare:

That the Doctor ..... has explained to me that it is advisable/necessary in my  
situation to perform a .....  
.....  
and that I have adequately understood the information he/she has given me.

In ..... on ..... , 2 .....

Signed: Mr./Mrs./Miss. .... With National Identity Card No .....

Signed: Dr. .... With National Identity Card No .....

Associate number .....

## Revocation of the consent

I hereby revoke the consent granted on the date of ..... , 2 ..... and I do not wish  
to carry on with the treatment that I hereby terminate on this date.

In ..... on ..... , 2 .....

Signed: The Doctor

Signed: The patient

Associate number: .....



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