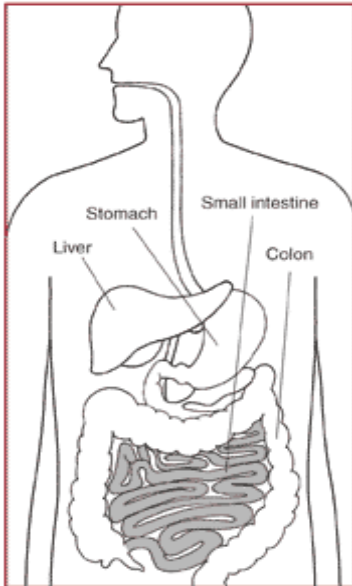


Capsule Endoscopy



What is Capsule Endoscopy?

Capsule Endoscopy is a procedure in which a vitamin sized “camera pill” is swallowed or placed in the small intestines. The capsule advances through the digestive tract normally and painlessly by the body’s natural intestinal contractions. Over the course of 8 hours the “camera pill” takes approximately 50,000 pictures at a rate of 2 pictures per second. The pictures are transmitted to a recorder that your child wears around their waist. After the recording is complete, the images are uploaded to a computer for the doctor to view. The capsule then passes naturally with a bowel movement within 24-48 hours. Capsule Endoscopy is the least invasive and most direct way for your child’s doctor to see the inside of your child’s small intestines.

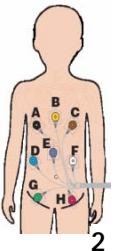


Why does my child need to have a capsule endoscopy?

Your child may need to have this procedure done if they are experiencing unexplained abdominal pain after other diagnostic exams have been done, obscure gastrointestinal bleeding, GI disorders such as Crohn’s disease, Celiac disease, ulcerative colitis, polyposis syndrome, as well as other disorders.

What to expect on the day of the procedure?

You will arrive to the 3rd floor of Vanderbilt Children’s Hospital and check in with the receptionist. Your child will be called for and taken to a room. You will be asked to sign a consent form to have the procedure done. The recording wires, like an EKG, will be placed onto your child’s abdomen with tape-like patches and attached to the data recorder. The data recorder is then placed in a belt and worn around the waist. Your child will then swallow the capsule after which you and your child will be discharged. Your child will not be admitted to the hospital after their procedure for the study. You and your child will be expected to return for removal of the recorder in 8 hours.



After your child ingests the capsule.

Your child will not be able to eat or drink for two hours after swallowing the capsule. After two hours, they will be able to have clear liquids – **nothing red**, until the end of the study. They will not be allowed to eat solid foods for 8 hours after swallowing the capsule. You and your child will then return in 8 hours to have the recorder removed. Your child will then be allowed to return to their regular diet.

Are there any risks or complications?

The only risk or complication of capsule endoscopy is the possibility of retaining the capsule. This is rare but might need to be surgically removed. If your child has not passed the capsule in 2 weeks, please inform your child’s doctor. Please do not go near magnetic fields such as MRI’s or amateur (ham) radios during the study. Some images may be lost due to interference. Your child must not have an MRI until the capsule passes. Notify your doctor BEFORE the test if your child has a heart pacemaker.

When will the results be available?

After the images are uploaded, it will take the doctor several hours to view all the pictures. Due to the time involved in reading the study the results of the capsule endoscopy will be available in about 5-7 days.