

Information About

Capsule Endoscopy

What is Capsule Endoscopy?

Capsule endoscopy is a noninvasive diagnostic procedure that allows detailed visualization of the small intestine using a tiny, swallowable camera capsule. The PillCam™ SB3 capsule is the latest advanced technology designed to capture high-resolution images during its natural passage through your digestive tract. It helps detect conditions such as Crohn's disease, obscure gastrointestinal bleeding, and unexplained iron deficiency anemia when other endoscopic procedures are inconclusive.

How Does the PillCam SB3 Work?

The PillCam SB3 capsule is approximately the size of a large vitamin pill and contains a miniature camera that takes millions of high-quality images. These images are transmitted wirelessly to a sensor array worn on your abdomen, which is connected to a portable data recorder worn around your waist.

- The capsule moves naturally through your digestive system and is passed in your stool, typically within 24 to 48 hours.
- Key technological advances include:
- 30% improved image resolution compared to previous models for clearer visualization of mucosal surfaces.
- Adaptive frame rate technology, increasing image capture from 2 to 6 frames per second depending on capsule speed for comprehensive coverage.
- Enhanced software algorithms that make image review more efficient and accurate for your physician.

Preparation for the Procedure

- Follow a liquid diet starting the day before the procedure to ensure a clear view of the small bowel.
- Avoid solid foods and drink only clear fluids as directed by your physician.
- Take any prescribed bowel preparation solutions to clean the intestines.
- Remove metal objects and dental appliances before the procedure.
- You will wear the sensor belt and data recorder for approximately 8 hours during image capture.

During and After the Procedure

- Swallow the capsule with water; the procedure is painless and does not require sedation.
- You may carry on with normal activities while wearing the recorder but avoid strenuous exercise or swimming.
- After 8–12 hours, remove the recorder and return it to your healthcare provider for data analysis.
- The capsule passes naturally and is disposable; no retrieval is necessary. Rarely, if it does not pass, further intervention may be needed.

Risks and Considerations

Capsule endoscopy is very safe, with minimal risk. Rarely, the capsule may get stuck in narrowed areas of the intestine, requiring medical removal. Inform your doctor if you have known intestinal strictures, pacemakers, or swallowing disorders.

Why Choose PillCam SB3?

The PillCam SB3 represents the gold standard in capsule endoscopy technology, offering superior image quality, enhanced small bowel coverage, and more efficient diagnostic review to support improved clinical decisions and patient care outcomes.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your healthcare team. This non-invasive test provides a comprehensive view of your small bowel to aid in the diagnosis and management of complex digestive conditions