

Bravo pH 48 HR Test

Location: NorthPark Medical Park, 910 East Houston Street, Suite 470, Tyler, TX 75701

What is a Bravo study?

A Bravo study tests and records the pH or acid content within your esophagus during the 48 HR period. The Bravo capsule is placed during a sedated endoscopy procedure, so you will need a driver. Once your physician has examined your stomach and esophagus, a miniature pH capsule (about the size of a gel cap) is attached to the esophagus. The capsule contains a radio-transmitter that will transmit the data to a pager-sized receiver which is worn on your waistband or belt.

Preparation for the procedure

You will need to contact your primary MD and/or MD performing the procedure to find out if they want you to stop any of your anti reflux medications prior to the procedure. Please make sure that MD is aware of any prescription and/or over the counter anti-reflux medication that you are taking. (ie, Nexium, Omeprazole, Prilosec)

The day of procedure

Do not eat or drink anything six (6) hours before the procedure (see your EGD instructions). All spinal nerve stimulators need to be turned off prior to your procedure if you are getting sedated.

When you wake up in the recovery area after your procedure you may feel a vague sensation in your esophagus. This is normal and should not be painful. The data receiver will need to stay within 3-5 ft of you at all times during the procedure. If it is too far away it will not transmit information. If this happens, move the receiver to your chest to reconnect signal. You can bathe with the receiver right outside of shower and sleep with receiver on bedside table.

During the study

On the receiver are five (5) buttons that you will press if you experience the coordinating symptom or event. For instance, if you experience heartburn press the heartburn button once so that symptom will be time stamped on your report. It is the same with regurgitation and chest pain. When you sit down to eat a meal press the meal button and when you are done press the meal button again. Do the same when you lie down to sleep press the sleep button and again when you wake. You will be asked to keep a diary during the 48-hour test. If you have symptoms not listed in the five buttons then please list the start and end time on the provided diary sheets using the time on the receiver.

48 hours after the study starts

You will need to return the receiver and diary to the Endoscopy Center receptionist after the 48-hour test. The data is uploaded to a computer and analyzed by your physician. About a week after the procedure the capsule will naturally fall off the wall of the esophagus and pass through your digestive tract and be eliminated. You do NOT need to retrieve or return this to us.

You cannot undergo an MRI study for 30 days after the Bravo procedure.