

Oesophago-gastro- duodenoscopy (OGD)



ess

© Mr Bruno Lorenzi MD PhD

Consultant General, Upper GI and Laparoscopic Surgeon
essexsurpecialists.co.uk

OGD

An oesophago-gastro-duodenoscopy (OGD) or simply gastroscopy is a procedure which involves passing a small camera (gastroscope) through the mouth into the oesophagus (gullet), stomach and duodenum (first part of the small intestine). It is mainly a diagnostic procedure sometimes with biopsies, but can be done with a therapeutic intent for specific conditions (eg dilatation).

Before an OGD, you cannot eat or drink for 6 hours, but can take small sips of water up to 2 hours before the procedure.

The procedure can be performed under local anaesthetic throat spray or intravenous sedation. Occasionally, it is done under general anaesthetic.

Our preference is a combination of local anaesthetic throat spray and intravenous sedation. This way, you are practically unaware of what is going on and will have little memory of the procedure. The result is usually a very comfortable and positive experience.

This is important as Mr Lorenzi would be able to carefully examine your oesophagus and stomach without you gagging or moving and you will feel safe and happy to have another OGD in the future if necessary.

A gastroscopy lasts approximately 10-15 minutes. You are allowed to eat and drink as soon as you have regained full consciousness and then go home an hour or so after the procedure.

It is recommended to refrain from driving for 24 hours after an OGD with sedation. If it is important for you to drive on the day of the procedure, please inform Mr Lorenzi or Dr O'Hara and consider the possibility of using only the local anaesthetic throat spray or having the procedure another day.