

## **ERCP Checklist**

(Endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography)

- Do not eat any food after midnight. You may have a few sips of clear liquid up to 4 hours before your exam. It is very important that your stomach is empty so all areas can be seen.
- Your doctor will tell you if you need blood drawn or antibiotics given before your exam.
- If your doctor wants you to take your medications before the exam, take them with a small sip of water.
- Arrive 1 hour before your scheduled appointment time to the Endoscopy Centre on the first floor of the hospital.
- Leave money and valuables at home.
- Tell the nurse about any pills you have taken before your exam and about any allergies you have to medicines or X-ray dyes.

## **Special Instructions:**

**For Patients with Diabetes:** Contact your primary care provider (PCP) about diabetic medications. You will not be eating or drinking for a few hours before your test. Your medications may need adjustment to keep your blood sugar at a safe level. Check your blood sugar on the morning of your exam.

**For Patients on Blood Thinners:** Medicines like Coumadin (warfarin), Pradaxa and Plavix (clopidogrel) are usually stopped 5-7 days before your test. Stopping them helps prevent bleeding if tissue is removed or biopsied. You must contact your PCP for specific directions about these medications.

For Patients with Pacemakers, Defibrillators and other Implanted Devices: Bring your device card with you. Make sure your pacemaker has had its routine checkup.

**If there is any possibility you may be pregnant,** please consult your primary care or obstetrician regarding having this procedure. If you need to make any changes to your procedure please call, 617-983-7017.

Remember to make plans for a responsible adult to come with you to the hospital. Sedation medication will not be given if you don't have someone to drive you home (a taxi driver cannot serve as your responsible adult).