

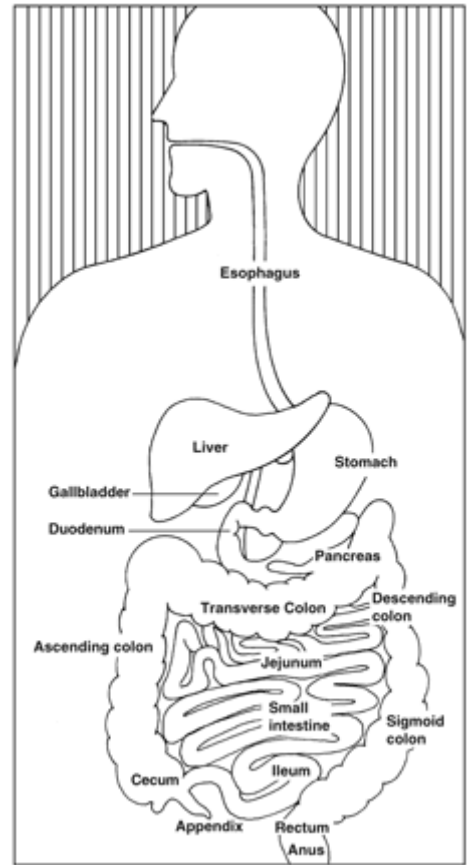
Capsule Endoscopy

Capsule Endoscopy allows your doctor to examine the small intestine – the middle portion of your gastrointestinal tract. Your doctor may order this test to check for small bowel disease that may cause pain, low blood count, or blood in bowel movements when the obvious reason for bleeding cannot be found during other diagnostic tests such as endoscopy or barium studies.

Capsule endoscopy involves the examination of the small intestine by a miniature digital video camera that is the shape and size of a large vitamin tablet. You will swallow the capsule to permit the camera to obtain pictures of your small intestine. The capsule transmits images of your small bowel through radio communication to a special receiver that you will wear on a belt. The camera will transmit to the receiver through sensors that are attached with adhesive pads to the skin of your abdomen.

The capsule is disposable and you will excrete it naturally in your bowel movement.

The physician will review the images of your small bowel taken by the camera, and will plan treatment based on the findings of the test.



The digestive system

As is the case with most new diagnostic procedures, not all insurance companies are currently reimbursing for this procedure. You need to check with your own insurance company to ensure this is a covered benefit.