

FAQ

Frequently Asked Questions

Cabrini Brighton Open Access Endoscopy Centre

Q: WHAT IS A COLONOSCOPY?

A: A colonoscopy is an investigation of the large bowel which is performed to investigate symptoms such as altered bowel habits (diarrhoea/constipation), abdominal discomfort/pain, rectal bleeding, and bowel cancer surveillance in the presence of a family history.

A colonoscopy is a long, flexible tube with a light and camera attached. The scope is inserted into the rectum and then because it is flexible it is able to bend allowing the doctor to move it around the curves of the bowel. The scope also blows air into your bowel which inflates it, and expands the folds of tissue allowing your doctor to see the lining better.

Biopsies and photographs can be taken at intervals during the procedure. A colonoscopy can also be used to remove polyps.

Q: WHAT IS A GASTROSCOPY?

A: A gastroscopy is performed to look for reasons why you might be having problems swallowing, experiencing nausea, vomiting, reflux/indigestion, abdominal and chest pain.

The gastroscopy is a long, thin flexible tube with a light and camera attached which allows the doctors to see the pictures of the lining of your oesophagus, stomach, and duodenum (first part of the small bowel). The scope also blows air into your stomach which expands the folds of tissue allowing better views of the lining. The gastroscopy can also be used to remove or burn growths or to take tissue biopsies.

Q: I HAVE NOTICED THAT MY BOWEL HABIT HAS CHANGED. HOW DO I GO ABOUT HAVING THIS INVESTIGATED?

A: Ask your GP. Your GP will then decide what steps are required and this may include a referral to the Cabrini Brighton Endoscopy Centre as an open access patient.

Then it's as easy as making a phone call or dropping in to see one of our friendly staff members who will be able to organise the procedure for you. We understand that people's lives are busy, so you will be able to choose a day that suits you for your procedure. A member of the nursing staff will then explain any preparation that is required to prepare for your procedure.

Q: WILL IT BE EXPENSIVE TO HAVE THIS INVESTIGATION DONE AT CABRINI BRIGHTON AS AN OPEN ACCESS PATIENT?

A: No. Privately insured patients who are referred by their GP directly to the Cabrini Brighton Endoscopy Centre via the open access referral process will have no out of pocket expenses from the specialist doctor, anaesthetist, pathology or medical imaging services on the day. The only cost (if applicable) would be your individual health fund excess/co payment which relates to the level of cover that you have chosen. This can be discussed further with the patient services team at the time of booking.

Q: WILL I GET TO MEET THE SPECIALIST BEFORE THE PROCEDURE?

A: Yes. On the day of your procedure, you will have a pre-procedure consultation with the specialist and anaesthetist. The specialist performing your procedure will also see you afterwards and advise you of any findings. A full report with biopsy results will then be sent to your referring GP, usually within 3-5 days.

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PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Q: HOW DO I CONTACT THE CABRINI BRIGHTON ENDOSCOPY CENTRE?

A: Simply call (03) 9508 5900 to make an appointment or to ask any questions.

Q: WHERE IS THE CABRINI BRIGHTON ENDOSCOPY CENTRE LOCATED?

A: 243 New Street, Brighton, Victoria 3186, Melway reference: page 67, D10

Q: IS THERE CAR PARKING AVAILABLE?

A: Underground parking is available via New Street or Normanby Street.