

CAPSULE ENDOSCOPY

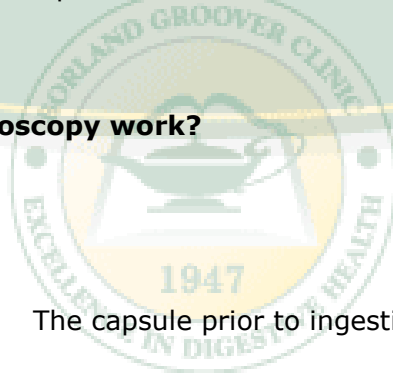
What is a capsule endoscopy?

Recently, Borland-Groover Clinic Physicians have added a new diagnostic tool to help our patients. Called Capsule Endoscopy, a patient swallows a small pill which emits a radio frequency which is picked up by a sensor that the patient wears over several hours. Images are then down loaded as a continuous movie and burned onto a DVD. The doctor then views the DVD looking for an explanation for the patients problem. At present, this technique is ideal for patients with suspected GI bleeding within the **small bowel**, the segment of bowel between the **stomach** and **colon**. The capsule is also being used in patients with unexplained abdominal pain, and for other diagnostic questions that clinicians find useful. This capsule form of endoscopy is not suited for inspection of the colon, and as such, at present, will not replace the need for **colonoscopy**. Below are a images of the capsule and literature that has been published in medical journals on its use. Recently, an advanced form of the capsule was incorporated at our clinic which looks specifically at the upper most of the digestive tract, that is the esophagus, and stomach. This new technique may avoid the need for **upper endoscopy** in certain patients. However, this is not a first-line test, and many insurance companies will not pay for this procedure.

How does a capsule endoscopy work?



The capsule prior to ingestion with a glass of water.





The inner workings of the capsule.



Sensor, and image of dvd of small bowel on the monitor.

