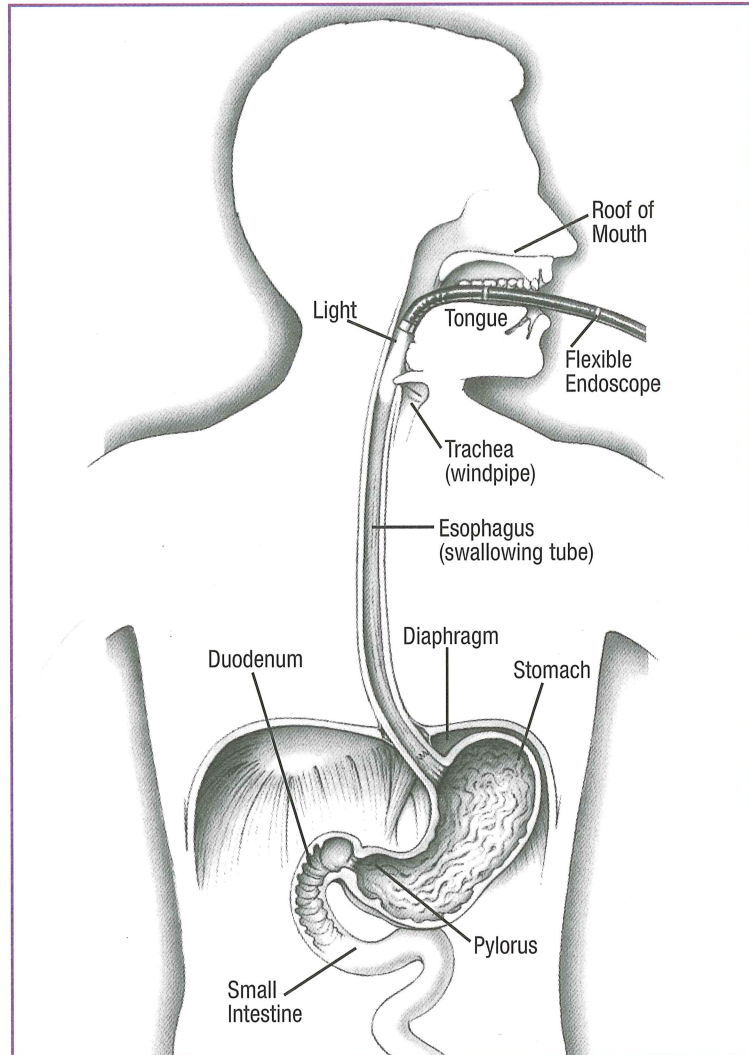
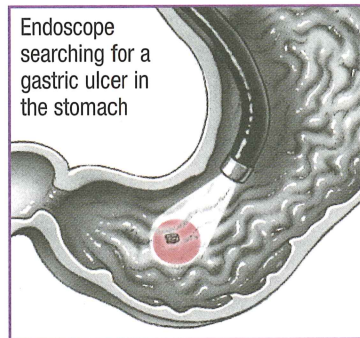
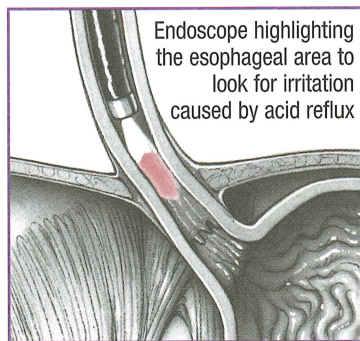
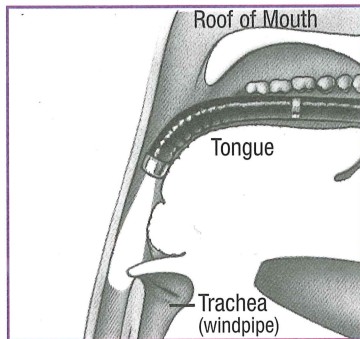


What happens during an

# Upper GI Endoscopy?



**AN ENDOSCOPE** is a flexible tube about half an inch in diameter and between 3 and 5 feet long. Fiber optics carry light down to illuminate the area being examined, and carry a clear image back to the eye piece. In some cases a camera sends images back to a TV monitor.

For examination of the upper GI tract, the patient is often sedated, and a topical anesthetic is sprayed on the back of the throat. The endoscope is then gently guided down the esophagus to the stomach. Upon entering the stomach, the gastric juice is removed to make it easier to see the stomach wall. The stomach is then filled with just enough air to permit a survey of its interior. The endoscope may be passed through the pylorus and into the duodenum. Diagnostic and therapeutic procedures may be done, and photos may be taken during the investigation.

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