

A NOTE FROM YOUR SURGEONS

Congratulations on taking a step towards wellness and healthy living! Now that you and your surgeon have discussed your operation, there are various tests you are required to complete before your surgery is scheduled. These appointments, labs, tests and referrals are intended to not only ensure you have a safe operation but also allow us to identify unforeseen medical problems prior to your surgery.

Some of the tests we require include:



Esophagogastroduodenoscopy (also known as “upper endoscopy,” or EGD)

EGD is a procedure where a small camera examines your esophagus and stomach; biopsies are sometimes taken during this procedure. This test can tell us if you have inflammation from acid reflux or ulcers. ALSA will refer you to a gastroenterologist (GI doctor) who will perform this procedure at an endoscopy center or Fresno Heart & Surgical Hospital. The GI doctor will decide if you will receive either light sedation or general anesthesia.



Manometry

This is an outpatient test to measure the strength and movement of your esophagus when you swallow. Your throat is numbed with medications and a small probe is used to measure your swallowing while you are awake. This test identifies potential swallowing problems that might cause reflux or pain when eating after surgery. After we receive your results, your surgeon might discuss another type of surgery to reduce potential discomfort after surgery.



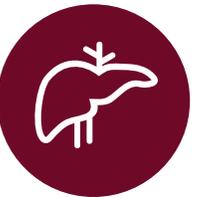
Lab Work

We order a full set of labs to review your general health, including: kidney and liver function, cholesterol, and thyroid levels. We also check your vitamin levels and correct these, as needed, prior to surgery as patients may have difficulty absorbing vitamins after surgery.



Sleep Study

We may ask you to undergo a sleep test that evaluates if you have sleep apnea. The test is performed overnight at a center where your breathing, oxygen level, heart rate, body movements and snoring are measured while you sleep. If you have sleep apnea, you will need to get this treated before surgery; if left untreated, it can lead to complications after surgery such as intestinal leaks and heart attacks.



Fibroscan

A Fibroscan is a specialized ultrasound that shows a detailed image of your liver. It can tell us the degree of fatty liver that may be present and even cirrhosis (scarring). Fatty liver is common in patients with obesity and may impact your health and recovery. Depending on the results, a liver biopsy may be done at the time of your surgery.



Ultrasound of your abdomen

An ultrasound is a painless scan that uses a wand over your abdomen that transmits sound waves to examine internal organs such as the gallbladder, pancreas and kidneys.