



PILLCAM™ SB FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ)

Q: What is the PillCam SB?

A: An ingestible capsule device equipped with a miniature video camera to visualize the small intestine.

Q: How does the PillCam SB work?

A: The smooth plastic capsule has a miniature video camera. It is equipped with a light source, batteries, a radio transmitter and antenna. After it is swallowed, the PillCam SB transmits approximately 50,000 images over the course of an 8 hour period (about 2 images per second) to a DataRecorder fixed to a belt worn around the patient's waist. The small bowel images are then downloaded into a RAPID® workstation computer where a physician can view the images on video monitors and make a diagnosis.

Q: What is the procedure for a patient using the PillCam SB?

A: A patient fasts for 10 hours prior to the exam, then swallows the PillCam SB with a sip of water. Images and data are acquired as the PillCam SB Capsule passes through the digestive system over an 8 hour period. This information is then transmitted via an array of sensors to the DataRecorder™ affixed to a belt worn around the patient's waist.

Q: How long does a procedure with the PillCam SB take?

A: Approximately eight hours.

Q: How long is the recovery time after taking the PillCam SB?

A: Recovery is immediate. A patient can return to a normal routine right away.

Q: How is the PillCam SB removed from the body?

A: The disposable capsule makes its way through the rest of the gastrointestinal tract and is then passed naturally and painlessly from the body, usually within 24 hours.

Q: What is the size of the capsule?

A: The capsule is 11mm x 26mm and weighs less than 4 grams.

Q: What are the traditional diagnostic and detection methods for the small bowel?

A: Endoscopy and radiological imaging. In endoscopy, the physician inserts an endoscope, a flexible tube and optical system approximately 3.5 feet long, through the patient's mouth. Typically, this procedure will include sedation and recovery time. During a radiological imaging examination, the patient swallows a contrast medium (such as barium), or a dense liquid that coats the internal organs to make them appear on x-ray film. The procedure produces a series of black and white x-ray images of the lumen, or cavity, of the small intestine.

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Q: How does a procedure with the PillCam SB compare to a traditional methods?

A: The PillCam SB procedure does not require sedation and can be administered in a doctor's office. Studies have shown patients undergoing the PillCam SB procedure have a much higher level of satisfaction, as it is convenient, comfortable, and recovery is immediate.

Q: How effective is the PillCam SB in diagnosing small bowel diseases and abnormalities?

A: The PillCam SB is considered the gold standard for detecting diseases of the small bowel such as Crohn's disease and obscure bleeding. Additionally, recent research shows the PillCam SB to have gold standard accuracy in detecting small bowel tumors and that the majority (65 percent) of small bowel tumors discovered were malignant.

Q: What is IBD?

A: IBD or Inflammatory Bowel Disease is a family of chronic diseases affecting the intestines. Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis both fall under the same umbrella and were once believed to be the same disease. Patients with IBD experience such symptoms as persistent diarrhea, abdominal pain or cramps, fever and weight loss, and joint, skin, or eye irritations in varying degrees. Some may not experience all of them.

Patients may also experience cycles of remission and relapse as the disease progresses. While Crohn's disease is rarely fatal, there is no cure. Instead, doctors focus on treating the symptoms. If left untreated, symptoms may worsen, and health problems such as abscesses, obstruction, malnutrition, and anemia may occur.

Q: How prevalent are gastrointestinal diseases such as Crohn's, ulcerative colitis, and small bowel cancers?

A: According to American Gastrointestinal Association data, approximately 19 million of Americans suffer from various disorders of the small intestine, including bleeding, Crohn's disease, celiac disease, irritable bowel syndrome, and small bowel cancers. Of these 19 million people, approximately 500,000 people suffer from Crohn's disease

Q: Where can someone find more information about the PillCam SB?

A: By visiting www.PillCam.com.