

Upper Gastro-Intestinal Endoscopy (Spire)



I have been doing upper endoscopy for approximately 20 years and stopped counting once I had done more than 2,000 procedures. I now help run the high risk interventional list using XR guidance in those with strictures or cancer that need balloon dilatation or stent insertion.

It is not a pleasant procedure, but thankfully takes just 5 minutes. It is generally well tolerated, but we do have access to sedation for those who would prefer to feel drowsy during the procedure.

The investigation provides an instant view of the oesophagus, stomach and early part of the small bowel. It is a useful way to assess for oesophageal acid reflux and Barretts, along with stomach ulcers and cancer. It also allows us to take biopsies to exclude coeliac disease and H.pylori.

