

Anal Manometry

There are two small muscles in the anus (opening from the rectum) which help to control bowel movements. The muscles are known as internal and external sphincters. They are normally contracted (closed) to prevent leakage of stool. When a person has a bowel movement, these muscles must relax (open) at the same time. The anal manometry test is to see how well these muscles in the anus and the pelvic floor are working.

How to Prepare for the Test

Give an Enema the night before the test.

Another enema in the morning 2 hours before the test.

Nothing to eat 2 hours prior to the procedure

Bring a familiar toy, a "security blanket" or other objects from home to help comfort your child during the test.

How the Test Is Done

The test will be done in the GI Procedure Room. Parents are welcome to stay with their children.

Your child will be asked to remove their underpants and a drape to cover them. They will then be asked to lie on a table.

A rectal exam will be done to make sure the rectum is empty.

This test feels "strange" but is not painful.

A narrow and flexible tube (catheter) with a small, deflated balloon on the end will be placed into your child's rectum. The balloon is slowly inflated to different sizes.

If your child is old enough, we will ask him to squeeze the anus around the balloon and tell us when the balloon is felt.

The tube is attached to a computer. The computer records how well the muscles around the anus are working.

Risks and Complications

Irritation (soreness) around the anus and in the rectum.

A small amount of rectal bleeding.

There is a chance the test will not be done if there is too much stool in the rectum.

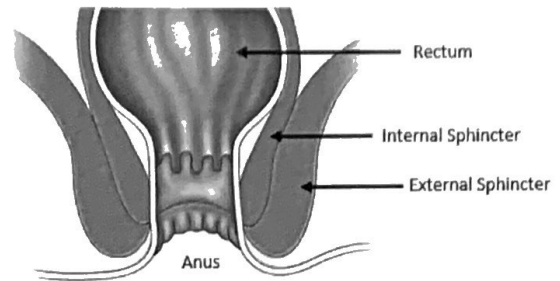
This test requires a certain amount of cooperation from the child. If it is too hard for your child to stay still and cooperate, we may have to stop the test.

Due to unexpected outcomes, the test may need to be repeated.

Anorectal Manometry – A Patient’s Guide

What is anorectal manometry?

Anorectal manometry is a test performed to evaluate patients with constipation or fecal incontinence. This test measures the pressures of the anal sphincter muscles, rectal sensation, and the neural reflexes that are needed for normal bowel movements.

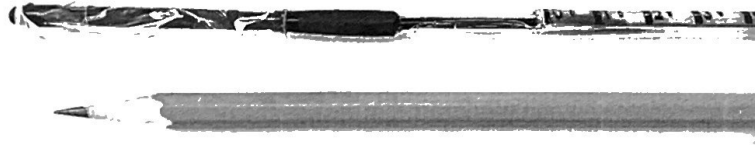


Preparation for the procedure

- Your doctor may recommend that you give yourself one or two Fleet® enemas 2 hours before your study. Fleet enemas can be purchased from a pharmacy or supermarket.
- You should not eat anything during the two hours prior to the procedure. If you are diabetic, this may involve adjusting your diabetic medications.
- You may take regular medications with small sips of water at least 2 hours prior to the study.

The procedure

- The test itself takes approximately 15 minutes.
- You will be asked to lie down on your left side.
- A thin flexible catheter, thinner than a pencil, with a small balloon at the end and four very small balloons a little further back, is lubricated and inserted only 4" to 5" into the rectum.



The *mcompass*® Anorectal Manometry Catheter

- The catheter is connected to a small handheld device that measures the pressures of your rectum and anal sphincter muscles.
- The nurse or technician will ask you to squeeze, relax, and push at various times.
- During the test, the balloon in your rectum will be inflated with air using an empty syringe, to assess normal neural reflexes.
- After the examination, you may drive yourself home and go about your normal activities.



Risks of Anorectal Manometry

Anorectal manometry is a safe, low risk procedure and is unlikely to cause any pain. All *mcompass*® catheters are latex-free.