Hemostatic Clip Placed During GI Procedure

What is a hemostatic clip?
Hemostatic clips are used to prevent bleeding in the GI tract, most often after a polyp(s) has been removed from your colon or to treat a bleeding ulcer. Polyps are small growths of tissue that can be seen during a GI procedure. Although most polyps are benign (non-cancerous), a number may have an area of cancer or may develop into cancer later on which is why they are removed. A bleeding ulcer, most often found in the stomach, may be caused by medicine or infection.

After a polyp is removed, or an ulcer is found to be bleeding, a hemostatic clip may be placed. This clip is a small metal device that is used to join the surrounding tissue together to reduce your risk of bleeding. The doctor uses the scope to place this clip during your exam.

What can I expect?
The clip will fall out on its own. This usually happens within a few weeks; however, some clips are in patients longer. The clip is very small, so you will not notice when the clip passes out in your stool.

What precautions do I need to take?
You may not be able to have an MRI while the clip is still in you. If the clip is in your colon, it is important to tell your healthcare provider if you need an MRI. Please keep the clip identification card.

Phone Numbers
Digestive Health Center, 8am to 5pm weekdays, (608) 890-5000. After clinic hours, please call (608) 890-5000. Give your name and phone number with the area code. The doctor will call you back.

If you live outside of the Madison area, please call 1-855-342-9900.

UW Health Digestive Health Center
750 University Row
Madison, WI
(608) 890-5000
(855) 342-9900

Meriter Hospital Digestive Health Center
Lower Level 202 S. Park St.
Madison, WI
(608) 417-6389

University of Wisconsin Hospital & Clinics GI Procedure Clinic
600 Highland Avenue
Madison, WI
(608) 263-8097
(800) 323-8942

Your health care team may have given you this information as part of your care. If so, please use it and call if you have any questions. If this information was not given to you as part of your care, please check with your doctor. This is not medical advice. This is not to be used for diagnosis or treatment of any medical condition. Because each person’s health needs are different, you should talk with your doctor or others on your health care team when using this information. If you have an emergency, please call 911. Copyright © 5/2017 University of Wisconsin Hospitals and Clinics Authority. All rights reserved. Produced by the Department of Nursing. HF#7708