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# DIAGNOSTIC TESTS FOR GASTROPARESIS

TEST	EXPLANATION
Gastric Emptying Scan	The person eat a meal containing a small, safe amount of radioactive material. The amount of radioactivity in the stomach is monitored to determine how quickly food leaves the stomach.
Gastric Manometry	A thin tube is inserted through the mouth into the stomach. A wire in the tube takes measurements of the stomach's electrical and muscular activity as it digests food, indicating whether the stomach is contracting in an efficient manner.
Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI)	A body scan is done using a magnetic field and radio waves to take three-dimensional pictures of the gastrointestinal tract.
Upper Endoscopy attached (Gastroscopy)	After sedation, a flexible, lighted instrument with a very small camera is inserted through the mouth to the stomach and first part of the small intestine. This enables the doctor to see any abnormalities in the esophagus, stomach, and small intestine. This test can rule out causes of gastroparesis other than diabetes.
Barium X-Ray	After fasting for 12 hours, the person drinks a shake containing barium, which makes the stomach visible on x-ray. The stomach is then x-rayed to see if any food is present.

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# MEDICINES TO TREAT GASTROPARESIS

MEDICINE	HOW IT WORKS
Bethanechol (Urecholine)	Increases muscle contractions in the gastrointestinal tract.
Cisapride (Propulsid)	Increases the contractions of the gastrointestinal tract. In the United States, this drug is restricted to people who meet certain eligibility requirements due to its effects on the heart.
Domperidone (Motilium)	Increases stomach contractions, accelerating emptying of solid foods. This drug also lessens nausea and vomiting. There is a potential undesired effect on the heart. This drug is only available in Europe, Mexico, and Canada.
Erythromycin	Increases stomach contractions, decreasing the amount of time the stomach needs to empty.
Metaclopramide (Reglan)	Normalizes contractions of stomach muscles and decreases nausea and vomiting.
Octreotide (Sandostatin)	Improves contractions of the gastrointestinal tract. May also enhance effects of erythromycin.
Tegaserod (Zelnorm)	Decreases stomach emptying time, moving food into the intestine and reducing the chance of bezoar formation.

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