

Gastrointestinal Bleeding (CAPEND-3)

Capsule endoscopy is non-invasive and generally safe. It permits evaluation of portions of the GI tract that may not be more accessible to invasive modalities such as gastrointestinal endoscopy. It requires no pre-evaluation bowel preparation, although some choose to give laxatives prior to the procedure. Despite use of either upper endoscopy, small bowel enteroscopy, and/or colonoscopy, the source of gastrointestinal bleeding or iron deficiency anemia may go unexplained. Capsule endoscopy has been shown to detect small intestinal bleeding sources in up to 63% of cases where traditional endoscopy has been unrevealing. It is indicated for use in those with overt GI bleeding with negative EGD and colonoscopy, suspected obscure GI bleeding or unexplained iron deficiency anemia, or prior negative capsule endoscopy with recurrent obscure bleeding.

References:

1. Iddan G, et al. Wireless capsule endoscopy. *Nature*. 2000;405:417.
2. Kamboj AK, et al. Upper gastrointestinal bleeding: etiologies and management. *Mayo Clin Proc*. 2019;94:697.
3. Baba Y, et al. Clinical characteristics and risk factors for rebleeding in patients with obscure gastrointestinal bleeding. *Intern Med*. 2020;59:1345.