



Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center  
DEPARTMENT OF NURSING  
SPECIAL PROCEDURES  
POLICY AND PROCEDURE

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**SUBJECT: LIGATION BANDING - VARICEAL**

**Policy No.:** SPL24  
**Supersedes:** ALL  
**Revised Date:** 12/2015  
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**Purpose of Procedure:** To define methods used to ensure safe and appropriate nursing care for patients undergoing variceal banding.

**Physicians Order Required:** Yes

**Performed By:** RN

**Policy Statement:** Appropriate nursing care will be provided to patients having Variceal Banding Ligation.

**Procedural Steps:**

1. Follow policy on patient care standards for care of patients before, during, and after procedure.
2. See SGNA manual on Esophagogastroduodenoscopy (EGD).
3. Position patient on gurney on the left side with knees bent.  
**KEY POINT:** Positioning on the left side facilitates visualization. If the patient is uncooperative or has severe coagulopathy this procedure is contraindicated.
4. Obtain the ligation kit.
5. Explain to the patient the purpose of positioning, relaxation technique, approximate length of the procedure, and sensation patient is likely to experience.
6. Observe for potential complications such as hemorrhage, aspirations, ulceration and/or necrosis of the esophagus, stricture, chest pain, fever, mediastinitis, esophageal perforation.  
**KEY POINT:** Notify medical doctor if any of these potential complications occur during the procedure.

**Patient Education:**

1. Explain the purpose of the procedure, effects of the sedative medication to be used, positioning, relaxation methods, techniques to be used, estimated length of the procedure and sensations the patient is likely to experience during and after the exam.
2. Explain the use of the bite block and oral suction.

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**Reviewed by:** Ma Theresa Herrera, RN

**References:**

SGNA Monograph Series – Standard for Practice in the GI Endoscopy Setting – Standard I & II

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05/06 – Reviewed

09/09 -- Revised

11/12 – Reviewed

12/15 - Reviewed