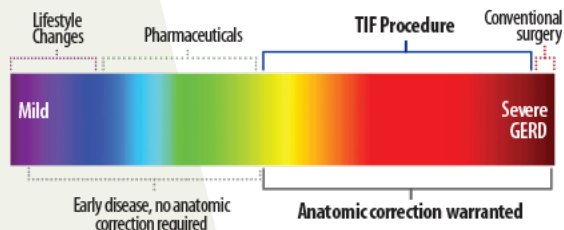


What are my treatment options?

The most common are diet and lifestyle changes and pharmaceuticals. For moderate to severe GERD, your doctor may recommend a surgical option, including TIF, an incisionless surgical solution.



Pharmaceuticals

For many patients pharmaceuticals can alleviate GERD symptoms. However, they don't solve the underlying anatomical problem and generally don't stop disease progression. As the antireflux valve deteriorates, you may need to increase your dosage and, like many GERD sufferers, it may mean taking medication for the rest of your life. What's more, recent major studies on the adverse effects of long-term use of PPIs suggest an increased risk of bone fractures.

Conventional surgical options

Conventional antireflux surgery has long been known to be an effective long-term solution to treating GERD. During the surgery, the antireflux valve is reconstructed by wrapping the upper portion of the stomach around the esophagus. Due to its invasiveness, conventional surgery is often reserved for only the most advanced cases of GERD.

Incisionless TIF procedure (with the EsophyX device)

TIF is the first incisionless NOS (Natural Orifice Surgery) procedure based on the long-established surgical principles of the gold-standard conventional reflux surgery procedures. As a low-risk solution, TIF is often appropriate for a wide range of GERD sufferers, including those who:

- No longer adequately respond to or are dissatisfied with pharmaceutical therapies
- Are experiencing heartburn or non-heartburn symptoms of GERD
- Are concerned about long-term effects of a lifetime of taking pills

Live life on your terms!



Eat or drink the foods you want when you want.



Sleep the way you desire.



Rapid recovery - back to work and a normal life.

Ask us for a reflux/heartburn consultation



WESTERN WISCONSIN HEALTH

1100 Bergslien Street • Baldwin, WI

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wwhealth.org

Incisionless Solution for Chronic Acid Reflux

No More Pills, No More Pain, No Scars



TIF® Transoral Incisionless Fundoplication With EsophyX®



WESTERN WISCONSIN HEALTH

TIF: The incisionless solution for GERD

Finally, an effective solution for chronic acid reflux. If you have heartburn twice a week or more, you may have acid reflux disease, also known as Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease (GERD). Heartburn is the most common symptom, but you may also experience:

- Regurgitation
- Hoarseness or sore throat
- Frequent swallowing
- Asthma or asthma-like symptoms
- Pain or discomfort in the chest
- Reflux-related sleep disorders
- Yellow fluid or stains on pillow after sleep
- Excessive clearing of the throat
- Persistent cough
- Burning in the mouth or throat
- Intolerance of certain foods
- Bloating
- Dental erosions or therapy-resistant gum disease or inflammation

What is GERD?

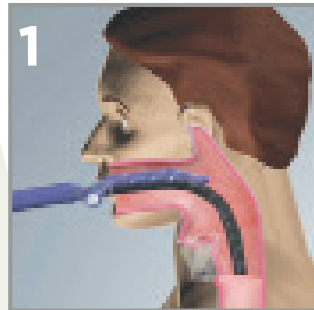
GERD is caused by anatomic changes in the body's natural antireflux valve, or gastroesophageal valve (GEV). Normally, after swallowing, the valve between the esophagus and stomach opens to allow food to pass, then it closes to prevent stomach contents from refluxing into the esophagus. Excessive weight, diet, aging and injuries to the abdomen are among the factors contributing to the deterioration of the antireflux valve.



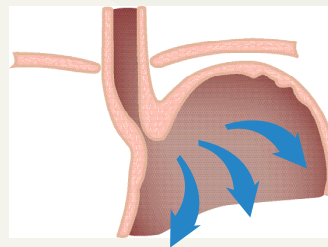
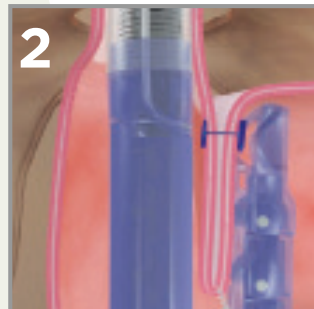
What is TIF?

TIF (Transoral Incisionless Fundoplication) treats the underlying cause of GERD without incisions. This innovative procedure reconstructs the antireflux valve and restores the body's natural protection against reflux.

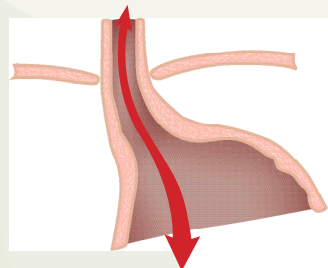
The EsophyX device and the endoscope are gently inserted through the mouth.



The device forms and fastens tissue folds to reconstruct the antireflux valve at the junction of the esophagus and the stomach.



Normal, Fully-Functional Antireflux Valve. Valve closes to prevent reflux of stomach fluids.



Abnormal, Dysfunctional Antireflux Valve. Valve can no longer close to prevent reflux of stomach fluids, causing GERD.

Is TIF effective?

In recent studies, TIF patients reported 80% improvement in quality of life, significantly improved satisfaction, and reduction/elimination of heartburn symptoms. All patients discontinued medication after the TIF procedure, and 79% were still completely off daily medication two years after the procedure.

Is TIF safe?

TIF has been proven safe in use in thousands of procedures worldwide. To date, side effects have been minimal.

What can I expect?

TIF is performed under general anesthesia and will require you not to eat or drink for several hours prior to the procedure. The procedure itself will generally take less than one hour.

Most patients can go home the next day and can return to work and most normal activities within a few days.

Patients should expect to experience some discomfort in their stomach, chest, nose and throat for the first few days to a week after the procedure. Patients will be asked to restrict physical activity for the first week and will be given dietary guidelines to help maximize their success while the tissue heals.

Has my surgeon been specially trained?

Every TIF surgeon receives specialized training including lectures and hands-on training with a certified TIF trainer.

Benefits of TIF:

- No external skin incisions - no scarring
- No internal cutting or dissecting of the natural anatomy - more rapid recovery
- Fewer adverse events and complications
- Does not limit future treatment options
- Can be revised if required