

If you're bothered by heartburn and other symptoms of acid reflux, you may benefit from Bravo™ pH monitoring. The board-certified gastroenterologists at Pioneer GI Clinic use the Bravo system's wireless capsule to evaluate the severity of acid reflux and gastroesophageal reflux disease (GERD) in real-time. Your test results help the medical team create the treatment plan you need for symptom relief.

What is Bravo pH monitoring?

The Bravo pH monitoring system measures the pH of stomach acids in your esophagus to diagnose acid reflux and gastroesophageal disease (GERD).

The system uses a wireless capsule that senses pH levels in your esophagus when heartburn and other symptoms occur. The capsule also tracks when and how much stomach acid flows back up into your esophagus to better treat acid reflux and GERD.

You may need Bravo pH monitoring if you have symptoms like:

- Coughing
- Heartburn
- Sore throat
- Hoarse voice
- Chest discomfort or pain

The Pioneer GI Clinic physicians offer Bravo pH monitoring capsule placement services in-office, so you can get the diagnosis you need to start treatment.

What happens during Bravo pH monitoring?

The providers at Pioneer GI Clinic place the pH monitoring capsule into your esophageal tissue during an upper endoscopy procedure. The small gel capsule sends information about the pH levels in your esophagus to a receiver that you wear on a belt.

You press the receiver's record button whenever you experience heartburn or related symptoms. While using the monitoring system, you should also keep track of what you're doing and what you're eating and drinking around the time your symptoms start.

It's normal to have a mild sore throat after the placement of the capsule. This discomfort should go away within a day or two.

How long do I use the Bravo pH monitoring system?

The physicians at Pioneer GI Clinic provide guidance to ensure you know how to operate the Bravo pH monitoring system before you go home.

Based on your symptoms and their severity, the physicians can determine how long the capsule should remain in place.

Once the monitoring period is over, you return to the office, and the providers download the information from the receiver to a computer. They analyze the results to determine if you need treatment.

In most cases, the gel capsule dissolves on its own over time. However, if it interferes with swallowing or causes pain, the providers can remove it during another endoscopy.

To find out if you're a candidate for Bravo pH monitoring to diagnose acid reflux, call Pioneer GI Clinic today.