Abstract—The Pillcam SB is a small camera that can be swallowed as though it were a pill. This camera eliminates the need for enteroscopy and colonoscopy.

I. INTRODUCTION

THE Pillcam is a very noninvasive way of viewing the small bowel. It is used for detecting, diagnosing, and monitoring abnormalities. Those who suffer from Crohn’s disease will find this especially helpful. A total of “75% of all Crohn’s patients have lesions in their small bowel” [1]. The Pillcam detects mucosal abnormalities in the small bowel and helps the doctor manage the disease over time by monitoring progression.

II. METHODS

Previous methods included procedures such as enteroscopy and colonoscopy. Enteroscopy involves oral camera insertion that travels into the upper gastrointestinal tract. Involuntary gag reflexes are induced and the patient may suffer from vomiting [followed by aspiration into the lungs], excessive bleeding from the biopsy site, and infection. Colonoscopies are similar except the camera is inserted rectally.

The Pillcam may take away the need for both. The patient simply swallows the pill. The doctor can move the camera pill by a magnetic remote control. The Pillcam consists of a camera, a transmitter, a battery, and several diodes for flash and may take up to 50,000 photographs.

III. RESULTS

Therapy is required for Crohn’s disease patients. However, with the help of the Pillcam, 62% of patients had their therapy changed within a few months. Why? The medication previously supplied did not treat the lesions. The Pillcam shortens the length of monitoring and is much less invasive than the procedures previously mentioned.

IV. DISCUSSION

The Pillcam stays in your body for up to 72 hours and can be flushed. This is a huge advantage because it is a natural process.

The price is extensive. The Pillcam procedure may cost around $1500 whereas an Endoscopy can be half that. However, many report price increases for Endoscopy due to complications, anesthesia, etc. The advantages of the Pillcam are worth the value.

REFERENCES