

## **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS** **FOR ENDOSCOPY**

Q. The prep is making me feel nauseated. What should I do?

A. If you are feeling nauseated, try drinking the prep more slowly. Walking and other activities usually decrease nausea. It is important that you continue to drink the solution if possible. Without a clean bowel, the doctor will not be able to see the inside of your colon to complete the examination. If you do vomit, wait 30 minutes and begin drinking the solution again. If you continue having difficulty please call our office or page the MD after office hours.

Q. Will I be given antibiotics prior to my procedure?

A. Most patients do not require antibiotics before their endoscopy procedures. Your physician will let you know, but please ask if you are concerned.

Q. How long will my procedure take?

A. Patients should allow 1.5 to 2 hours from the time they arrive until they leave the facility. Each patient responds differently to the medications and this means that some patients may take slightly longer to recover.

Q. How long will I have to wait for the results of my procedure?

A. The doctor will speak with you before you go home and give you preliminary results. If biopsies were taken or polyps removed, it will take 5 to 7 days to receive the results from the lab. Our office will call you if there is any cause for concern on the biopsy result. We will also send your result to your individual "patient portal"

Q. Will the procedure hurt?

A. Patients having an endoscopy procedure receive I.V. Propofol which provide deep sedation and a painless procedure. We also use Carbon Dioxide gas during a colonoscopy which is quickly absorbed preventing post procedure bloating. Many patients have no recollection of their procedure afterward. Our goal is to make your experience at our facility very comfortable.

Q. Is it necessary that I have a driver for a sedated procedure?

A. Yes. It is essential that you have an adult driver (18 or older) that remains with you

after the procedure. You will be sedated and should not operate any machinery for 12 hours after your procedure, including an automobile. If you do not have a driver, your procedure may be rescheduled.

Q. I have been instructed not to take anti-inflammatories or blood thinners several days before my procedure. What can I take for headaches and pain relief?

A. You may take Tylenol as directed.

Q. Can I have the colonoscopy if I am on my menstrual period?

A. Yes, the procedure can still be performed. We ask that you use a tampon if possible (not absolutely necessary).

Q. I am drinking the prep and now having loose, watery stools. Do I need to drink the rest of the prep?

A. Yes, you may have solid stool higher in the colon that needs to be eliminated.

Q. How long should I continue to drink clear liquids while prepping for my procedure?

A. It is important to continue drinking clear liquids until 2 hours prior to your procedure to eliminate dehydration.

Q. I am diabetic. What do I do if my blood sugar drops while prepping for my procedure?

A. You may drink apple juice, regular soda or a beverage that contains sugar. You may also have glucose gel or tablets to raise your blood glucose.

Q. Should I take my regular morning medicines the day of my procedure?

A. Call our office if you are on Coumadin, Plavix or other blood thinners. If you have diabetes do not take your diabetic medicines on the day of your procedure, and the night before if you are having a colonoscopy. All other oral medications, inhalers and nebulizers should be taken 4 hours prior to your procedure. Do not skip any doses of your blood pressure medicine. Bring along all your medications to the endo center.