



Frequently Asked Questions for Outpatient Procedures

What medications may I take the morning of my procedure?

You are allowed to take blood pressure, heart or seizure medications unless instructed by our physician or your primary care physician. Please refer to your prep instructions for a full list of approved medications.

What medications may I take the day prior to my procedure?

You can take all medications you have been prescribed EXCEPT blood thinners such as Coumadin, Plavix, Xarelto, Pradaxa and Effient. You should have received instructions on when these medications were to be stopped. If you have not been instructed to stop these medications, please call our office immediately.

What if I forgot to stop my blood thinner medications?

You will need to call our office and reschedule your procedure.

May I have my pain medication the morning of my test?

Yes, you may take any CHRONIC pain medications that you would normally take with a small sip of water.

May I have over-the-counter medications with my colon prep?

Yes, you may take Tylenol or acetaminophen along with regular multivitamins.

Will I need a driver?

Yes, you will need to have someone (preferably a family member or close friend) available to drive you to and from your procedure.

How will I be sedated?

You will be sedated by a CRNA (Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist) through IV.

How long does the procedure take?

You and your driver should plan to be at the hospital for three to four hours. This includes wait time, procedure time, recovery time and discharge. Although we strive to make your wait time minimal, occasional emergencies may arise that might affect your total time in our facility.



Can I go to work the day of my procedure?

Due to the sedation, we advise you not to work, drive or make any important personal or business decisions the day of your procedure.

When may I return to work?

You will be able to return to work the following day after your procedure.

What clear liquids are allowed?

The definition of a clear liquid is “anything you can see through when you hold the liquid up to a light.” This includes water, tea, black coffee, soft drinks, sports drinks, popsicles, Jell-O and bullion soup. However, please do not consume clear liquids that are dyed red, blue or purple as these colors may discolor the colon. Milk, creamer and “cream” soups are NOT considered clear liquids and should not be consumed.

Do I have to drink ALL of my colon prep?

Yes, we want your colon as clean as possible. This helps the physician see inside the colon.

What if I start vomiting after drinking the solution?

Wait 1 hour and let your stomach settle. Start drinking the solution again, but drink it slowly. Instead of every 10-15 minutes, drink every 20-30 minutes. This will take longer, but will hopefully keep you from vomiting the rest of the solution.

May I wear my jewelry and makeup?

Please do not wear any jewelry or makeup to your procedure and remove ALL body piercings as well.

When will I know the results of my procedure?

Your physician will speak to your driver about the findings of the procedure immediately after the procedure is finished. You will also receive a packet with a summary of your procedure and findings. If there were biopsies obtained during the procedure, the results are normally back in 10-14 days.

Will there be any pain after the procedure?

No, there should not be any pain after the procedure. You may feel some discomfort that feels like gas pains.