

## Endoscopy FAQs

### **What time will I be finished with my procedure?**

You should allow about an hour and a half from the time your procedure starts. For example: If you are scheduled for 10 am; you need to arrive at 9/9:30am (follow what it says on your instructions) and will be ready for pick up between 11 and 11:30. Please note: This is a rough estimate, in some cases, due to unforeseen circumstances, there may be a longer or shorter wait time.

### **Does my ride need to stay in the office the whole time? /Does my ride need to come to the office to pick me up?**

Your ride does not need to stay. They may drop you off and come back. We do require that they come upstairs to our suite to get you. **If your driver is not in the office at the time of pick up then we cannot discharge you. Remember, if you do not have a designated driver then we cannot perform the procedure-even if you have done your prep.**

### **Do you use anesthesia for the procedures? /What Kind of Anesthesia will I be under?**

Yes; we use sedation for both colonoscopies and upper endoscopies. Our on-site anesthesiologist uses **Monitored Anesthesia Care**. You will be fully sedated but unlike general anesthesia; you will be able to breathe without assistance. Please note: You will meet the anesthesiologist before you go into your procedure. If you have concerns/questions you may address them with him at that time.

### **Do I need to get a Prior Authorization from my insurance before the procedure?**

Our office has an in-house billing staff who obtains any necessary prior authorizations for you. Remember, if you have HMO insurance, YOU are responsible for obtaining a current and valid referral from your insurance.

### **Can I take my medications the day before the procedure?**

You will need to hold taking all blood thinners, iron supplements and aspirin (if you take one everyday) three days before your procedure. All other medications should be continued and taken the day before. If you have questions about stopping your medications please contact the prescribing doctor.

### **What about medications on the day of the procedure?**

If you are taking blood pressure medications then we require that you take them the morning of your procedure with the smallest sip of water possible as early in the morning as possible. We ask that you hold off taking all other medications the day of your procedure until after it is finished. Note: If you are taking medicine for diabetes; please bring them to your appointment.

### **Will I be able to go to work the same day as my procedure?**

We recommend that you take the entire day of your procedure off in order to rest and recuperate. As you will be under anesthesia; it is important that you refrain from driving and operating heavy machinery. You should be back to your regular routine the day after.

### **Will I be able to eat after my procedure?**

Of Course-as your body permits!



#### **PLEASE NOTE:**

**Please do not bring any valuables to our office on your procedure day as we cannot be responsible if they are lost or damaged.**

**A \$100 FEE WILL BE CHARGED FOR ALL PROCEDURES CANCELLED OR RESCHEDULED WITH LESS THAN 24 HOURS NOTICE.**

If any biopsies are taken during procedure, the specimen(s) will be sent to a specialized pathology service for diagnostic testing. If you receive an invoice- it will be separate from Gastroenterology & Hepatology Associates. If you are paying out of pocket, this charge is not included in your payment agreement.

If you need to cancel or reschedule your procedure, please call at least 24 hours in advance to 703.823.0333. Cancellation notices 2 days in advance would be appreciated.