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## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

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### BEFORE PROCEDURE

#### **How early can I begin taking my prep?**

You will receive a prescription upon completing your education/screening. The prep can be taken as early as noon on the day before your procedure.

#### **What is considered a clear liquid diet?**

As part of your scheduled screening, you will be told when to start a clear liquid diet. Diet soft drinks, broth, sugar free Jello, apple juice, white grape juice, coffee, tea and popsicles are considered clear. (must NOT be red, and no sugar, milk, or cream)

#### **What should I wear on the day of my procedure?**

Wear clothing that is casual and easy to put on and take off. In most cases, you will be asked to wear one of our patient gowns. Your clothing will be placed in a clear plastic bag and placed underneath your stretcher. Socks or footies can be worn but shoes are removed. Eye glasses, contacts, and hearing aids are allowed but ***please leave valuables, including jewelry, at home.***

#### **Should I bring my insurance information and medications that I take with me on procedure day?**

Yes, please bring a list of all medications you are currently taking, as well as your insurance card and any deductible amounts due.

#### **How long does it take for the procedure?**

It normally takes 30 minutes for the actual procedure and 30 minutes for your recovery time. We provide music, but some patients enjoy bring along a good book or magazine to read of their own.

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### DURING PROCEDURE

#### **What can I expect when I am taken back to the procedure area?**

You will be asked to sign consent forms, give a short medical history, and answer simple questions about your preparation. You will then be asked to use the restroom and disrobe. You may want to bring socks since the clinical area must remain cool. You will be placed on a stretcher for the remainder of the visit. The nurse will go over the procedure, start an IV, and answer any questions you may give. Once you are placed in the procedure room your vital signs will be taken, and monitored throughout the procedure. You will then be placed on your left side and the intravenous sedation will be given as directed by the physician.

The procedure will last approximately 30 minutes. During this time air is used to inflate the stomach and/or colon. This will cause you to feel bloated. We expect you to expel the air in order to feel more comfortable.

Your recovery time is about 30 minutes. We will provide with a beverage during this time. You will feel drowsy, but you will be able to dress yourself with some assistance. Please be aware, because of the sedation, it is not uncommon for you not to remember much about the recovery process. The physician will speak to your family about the results, with your permission.

Your family member will be asked to bring the car to our side entrance and sign discharge instructions with post procedure and appointment information. You will then be escorted and assisted into the vehicle.

**If a polyp is found during the procedure, will it be removed immediately?**

Yes. It will then be sent to Caris Diagnostics for testing. Please note that if a polyp is removed, there would be additional charges for the procedure.

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**AFTER PROCEDURE**

**Can I drive myself home after the procedure is completed?**

No, not the day of the procedure as sedation is given which makes it unsafe for you to operate a vehicle or any other type of machinery. You may return to your normal activities the day after the procedure.

**Does the person that will be driving me home after my procedure need to stay while I'm having the procedure done?**

Yes, following the procedure, the physician will step to the lobby area and speak with the family member/driver. There are often times when the family member/driver is of assistance in other ways.

**How soon can I eat after my procedure is over and what is recommended?**

You can eat immediately following discharge from our facility UNLESS OTHERWISE DIRECTED BY PHYSICIAN. We suggest you avoid fried or spicy food for the first meal.

**Do I need a follow-up appointment?**

Follow-up appointments are made on an as-needed basis and are dependent upon the findings of the procedure and/or if there are other health concerns your physician would like to address further.

**When can I expect to hear about my results?**

You should hear something with 1 (one) week following your procedure.

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**BILLING**

**Should I bring my insurance information with me on procedure day?**

Yes, please bring your health insurance card(s).

**Why is there more than one charge for my endoscopic procedure?**

When a procedure is performed, there will be charges for the physician's service, as well as a facility charge. You may also receive charges from pathology group associated with the facility.

**Which pathology group does The Endoscopy Center use?**

If a biopsy is performed or a polyp is removed, *The Endoscopy Center* uses Caris Diagnostics (formerly Pathology Partners). If you are unsure if your insurance accepts this company or you have questions about your bill, please call (888)344-1160.

**Should I call my insurance company to let them know about the procedure?**

You may want to call your insurance company to confirm that the Precertification number (if required) is on file. Precertification does not guarantee payment for any services. It only states medical services have been reviewed for medical necessity.

**What if I do not have insurance?**

Per our policy, The Endoscopy Center requires \$1,500 to be paid by patients with no insurance prior to any procedure being done. The remaining account balance for services rendered will be billed or refunded after the procedure(s) has been completed.

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**If your question is not listed here, please do not hesitate to phone us at (912) 790-2821.**