



## Procedure Information

### PLEASE READ ONE WEEK PRIOR TO YOUR PROCEDURE

Your colonoscopy is scheduled with a procedure time of **7:30am**.

If your procedure is at one of the following locations your arrival time is **6:30am**.

- Greenville Endoscopy Center – Patewood
- Greenville Endoscopy Center – Bon Secours
- Clemson Endoscopy Center
- Endoscopy Center of the Upstate

If your procedure is at Bon Secours Hospital your arrival time is **6:00am**.

If your procedure is at Prisma or Hillcrest Hospital you will receive a phone call from hospital staff informing you of your arrival time.

**\*\*\*PLEASE CALL 864-232-7338 TO CANCEL OR RESCHEDULE 72 HOURS PRIOR TO YOUR PROCEDURE TO AVOID A \$250 LATE CANCELLATION OR MISSED PROCEDURE CHARGE\*\*\***

Please arrive at the stated time. **AN ADULT DRIVER (AGE 18 OR OLDER) MUST ACCOMPANY YOU. YOUR DRIVER MUST REMAIN IN THE FACILITY OR YOUR PROCEDURE MAY BE RESCHEDULED.**

#### **Prep Instructions:**

1. A prescription for SUTAB has been sent to your pharmacy.

Do not take oral medications within one hour of starting each dose of SUTAB.

If taking tetracycline or fluoroquinolone antibiotics, iron, digoxin, chlorpromazine or penicillamine, take these medications at least two hours before and not less than 6 hours after administration of each dose of SUTAB.

Please read the instructions on the following pages carefully and follow the directions to prep for your colonoscopy. Failure to do so may result in the cancellation of your procedure.

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**Prep Day (day before procedure): CLEAR LIQUID DIET ALL DAY (NO SOLID FOOD)**

At **5:00 pm**, open one bottle of SUTAB (12 tablets). Fill the provided container with 16 ounces of water (up to the fill line). Swallow each tablet with a sip of water and drink the entire amount in 15-20 minutes.

Approximately one hour after the last tablet is ingested, fill the provided container a second time with 16 ounces of water (up to the fill line) and drink the entire amount over 30 minutes.

Approximately 30 minutes after finishing the second container of water, fill the provided container a third time with 16 ounces of water (up to the fill line) and drink the entire amount over 30 minutes.

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**Procedure Day (day of procedure):**

At **12:00am**, open one bottle of SUTAB (12 tablets). Fill the provided container with 16 ounces of water (up to the fill line). Swallow each tablet with a sip of water and drink the entire amount in 15-20 minutes.

Approximately one hour after the last tablet is ingested, fill the provided container a second time with 16 ounces of water (up to the fill line) and drink the entire amount over 30 minutes.

Approximately 30 minutes after finishing the second container of water, fill the provided container a third time with 16 ounces of water (up to the fill line) and drink the entire amount over 30 minutes.

SUTAB tablets and required water must be completed at least 4 hours before colonoscopy.

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**NO SOLID FOOD UNTIL AFTER YOUR PROCEDURE. YOU MAY HAVE A CLEAR LIQUID DIET UNTIL **3:30am**. NOTHING AFTER THIS TIME, INCLUDING CHEWING GUM OR HARD CANDY.**

## **CLEAR LIQUID DIET CHOICES: (NO RED OR BLUE LIQUIDS, AND NO DAIRY PRODUCTS)**

Soups: Bouillon (NO broth)

Desserts: Jell-O, Popsicles (**no red or blue**)

Beverages: Coffee (Black, or with sugar only-no dairy or artificial creamers), tea, apple juice, white grape juice. Carbonated beverages: Coke, Pepsi, 7-Up, Sprite, Ginger Ale, Gatorade

## **THREE (3) DAYS PRIOR TO YOUR PROCEDURE AVOID SEEDS, NUTS, CORN AND POPCORN.**

Food and drink taken before anesthesia can cause problems such as choking or vomiting. When sedated your body's normal protective airway reflexes are impaired. Having food or liquids in your stomach of any amount greatly increases the chance of serious consequences.

## **MEDICATION INSTRUCTIONS**

**Day before your procedure (Prep Day):** You may continue all daily medications, including aspirin. DO NOT STOP ASPIRIN.

Do not take oral medications within one hour of starting each dose of SUTAB.

If taking tetracycline or fluoroquinolone antibiotics, iron, digoxin, chlorpromazine or penicillamine, take these medications at least two hours before and not less than 6 hours after administration of each dose of SUTAB.

**Day of your procedure:** Take your aspirin, blood pressure, heart (except blood thinners), thyroid, or seizure medications with a small amount of water. Hold all other medications until after your procedure.

If you have asthma or other lung conditions, please bring your **inhalers** with you to your procedure. If you are **insulin dependent**, please bring it with you.

Diet medications (Adipex, Lomaira, Qsymia, phentermine, etc.) **must be stopped one week before your procedure.**

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

- 1. What if I start to feel nauseated or start vomiting?** Wait 15-30 minutes before continuing prep then start back slowly. You may also take a Benadryl to help control nausea.
- 2. I am taking the prep and already have loose, watery stools; do I still need the rest of the prep?** Yes, you may have solid stool higher in the colon that needs to be eliminated.
- 3. I already have diarrhea before taking the prep, do I still have to take the laxative?** Yes, you must take the prep as directed by your doctor. Your colon is approximately 6 feet long. The entire colon must be emptied for your physician to see the colon clearly.
- 4. One of the medications I was instructed to take the morning of my procedure is red. Can I take it?** Medication for blood pressure, thyroid, heart conditions, and seizure should be taken the morning of your procedure regardless of color.
- 5. Can I have the colonoscopy done if I am having my menstrual period?** Yes, the procedure can still be performed. We ask that you use a tampon if possible (not absolutely necessary).
- 6. Dizziness and headache could be signs of low blood sugar. Drinking a regular carbonated beverage (not diet) or apple juice may alleviate these symptoms.**
- 7. What is the best "clear" liquid to take?** Gatorade, which comes in many flavors, is an excellent choice as it contains electrolytes such as potassium. Avoid RED/BLUE liquids.
- 8. My bottom is so sore. What can I do?** To clean the area, avoid rubbing. Gently pat with a wet washcloth. Apply Vaseline, Preparation H, or Desitin liberally.
- 9. Why avoid red/blue liquids?** The color can persist in the colon and make an accurate diagnosis more difficult.
- 10. Can I drink alcoholic beverages?** We strongly suggest you do not drink any alcoholic beverages prior to your procedure since they can cause dehydration and some wines may thin your blood.
- 11. Can I chew gum or suck candy?** Yes, but nothing with soft centers or red color. No gum or candy 4 hours prior to procedure.
- 12. I see yellow color in the toilet bowl and a few flecks, what do I do?** If your last bowel movements were clear enough that you were able to see the bottom of the toilet you

should be fine. It is ok if you have some flecks of material. The yellow color is a result of bile that normally colors the feces. This shouldn't interfere with the examination.

**13. What if I am still passing stool the morning of my test?** Take a tap water enema until you run clear. If this does not work, call the office.

**14. Can I brush my teeth?** Yes.

**15. Can I wear my dentures?** Yes, you may wear your dentures to the Endoscopy suite. However, you may be asked to remove them prior to the procedure.

**16. Remove all jewelry prior to coming to your procedure.**

**17. Do I need a prescription for the laxatives?** Yes. Sutab is by prescription and you will receive this from your doctor. Call your pharmacy and have them put your prescription on hold if you are not able to pick it up within 10 days.



**To Our Patients:**

We have implemented our ***Patient Portal*** to enable you to receive your lab, pathology and radiology test results at your convenience. You may also ask your questions through the portal.

**First - Get enrolled in the Portal** at [GastroAssociates.com](http://GastroAssociates.com). You can also scan the QR code below to begin the enrollment process.



**Once Enrolled in the Portal**, you will log into your account at [nexttmd.com](http://nexttmd.com)

**For New Results:** You will receive an email notice that new results are ready for your review. You will log into your Portal account to get those results.

**To Ask Questions, Request an Appointment or Request Copies of Previous Records:** You will log into your Portal account and request those services.

**\*\*Please note:** Enroll in our Patient Portal soon. Results can't be sent automatically until you have created your portal account. If we have your email address, you will receive an email with the link to the enrollment site.

Thank you for your time. We are pleased that the ***Portal*** allows us to serve you more efficiently.

Sincerely,  
The Doctors and Staff of Gastroenterology Associates, P.A.

# Procedure Financial/Billing Information:

## WHAT TO EXPECT

You have been scheduled for an outpatient endoscopy procedure. Some preventative services are covered at no cost to the patient; however, strict guidelines determine what is considered a screening/preventative service. Coverage at no cost may exclude patients with current GI symptoms, history of gastrointestinal disease, or personal/family history of colon polyps or colon cancer. We recommend calling your insurance company to verify coverage for preventative, routine or screening services.

To help plan for the expense of your procedure, we may contact you with an estimate of your financial responsibility based on your insurance verification. This amount is expected to be paid prior to services being rendered. Depending on your insurance coverage, you could receive the following bills once insurance has processed. **Please note, the total amount due cannot be calculated until all claims have been processed by your insurance.**

- **Physician Fee:** Fee paid to physician for performing services. This statement will be from Gastroenterology Associates.
- **Anesthesia Fee:** If your procedure is in Greenville Endoscopy Center, the statement will be from Gastroenterology Associates. If your procedure is in any other facility, that facility will send you a statement.
- **Facility Fee:** The facility in which you have the procedure performed will send you a separate bill. We suggest contacting your insurance to ensure your scheduled facility is in network. Some insurance plans have facility copayments that range from \$200-\$400. Our providers perform procedures at the following facilities:
  - Greenville Endoscopy Center (billing services provided by Gastroenterology Associates)
  - Endoscopy Center of the Upstate
  - Bon Secours Hospital System
  - Prisma Hospital System
- **Pathology:** You can expect a separate bill from the laboratory or pathologist if you had a biopsy or a polyp removed. Greenville Endoscopy Center sends its pathology specimens to Pathology Consultants or Upstate Pathology.

If your insurance changes, please call our office to provide that information prior to your procedure. Some insurance companies require precertification or prior authorization.

If you have any questions regarding the fees listed above, please call our Insurance Coordinators at (864) 451-5095. You may also submit billing questions on our convenient Patient Portal. Simply select *Billing Question* once signed in.