

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### 1. How quickly will the diarrhea start after drinking the preparation?

Typically, diarrhea begins 1 to 3 hours after starting to drink the fluid. However, some patients take longer. For Suprep patients, If you have no diarrhea by 8:00 PM, you may take Milk of Magnesia 30 mL (TWO tablespoons). If that is not effective, you may take another 30 mL at 11:00 PM. For 2L or 3L prep patients, take an additional 2-3 glasses of the prep until diarrhea starts.

It is important that you do BOTH rounds of the prep- at 4pm the day before and 4 hours prior to your appointment. You should expect that you are passing only liquids, no formed or brown stool. You should be able to see through to the bottom of the commode. It is normal for this to be clear yellow, tan, or even greenish.

### 2 The mixture makes me sick to my stomach. What should I do?

If you experience nausea or vomiting while drinking the mixture, stop drinking for one hour then resume drinking at a slower rate – 4 ounces every 15 minutes. If you have a history of nausea and your MD has prescribed Zofran (ondansetron), take the Zofran 30 minutes prior to each dose of prep. Drinking the prep through a straw is also helpful. **If you experienced nausea with the first round of prep, start the second round one hour earlier than indicated before your procedure and go slowly.**

### 3. Can I drive after the colonoscopy?

No, you may not drive the day of the procedure. This is because we will give you medication to help you relax during the procedure, and it is against state law to drive under the influence of the sedation. Bring an adult driver with you who can assist you after the procedure. Uber, taxis, Jaunt, Medicare Cabs are not permitted forms of transportation, unless you have a responsible adult riding with you.

### 4. What kind of anesthesia will I receive for my procedure?

You will be sedated with moderate sedation. This is NOT general anesthesia, you will be breathing on your own, but sedated enough to be comfortable during the procedure. You will speak to the anesthesiologist prior to the procedure. If you have a prior history of difficulty with anesthesia, beyond nausea and vomiting, or have ever been told you have a difficult airway, please call the office at 434-817-8484 prior to starting your prep.

### 5. Will I have pain after the procedure?

Some patients experience mild abdominal cramping after the procedure. This usually resolves within several hours once the gas passes out of the colon. If you have severe pain or pain for more than 24 hours, call the doctor.

### 6.. How will I learn the results of my test?

If a biopsy or polypectomy was performed, we will post the results to your CGA Patient Portal as soon as the physician has reviewed them. If you are not signed for the Patient Portal, we can give you instructions for signing up the day of your procedure. You should hear from the office by phone or mail within 2 weeks of your procedure.

### 7. What do I do if snow or dangerous weather makes traveling difficult?

We are committed to staying open at both our office and hospital locations unless severe weather prevents safe travel. Please call the office at 434-817-8484 for further instruction.