

FLEXIBLE SIGMOIDOSCOPY

NAME: _____

You are scheduled for **FLEXIBLE SIGMOIDOSCOPY** at the GI Center at the Glens Falls Hospital on _____ (date). Your procedure is scheduled for _____ but it will be necessary for you to arrive at _____ to allow for our staff to prepare you for the procedure. **Please do not arrive at the GI Center prior to 7:00 AM as the doors are locked until that time. The GI Center closes in the late afternoon and patients must be picked up no later than 4:30 PM.**

Patients failing to cancel their flexible sigmoidoscopy appointment at least 7 days in advance will be billed an administrative fee of \$100 by Gastroenterology Associates of Northern N.Y., PC. This fee must be paid in full prior to scheduling future appointments. If you must cancel or reschedule the examination, please call 793-5034 at the earliest possible time. There are often significant delays in rescheduling and if there are any questions regarding the need to cancel due to sickness or other health issues, it is essential that you contact our office or our physician on call (after hours or on weekends).

The Glens Falls Hospital scheduling staff will be calling to pre-register you prior to your procedure. If you have not been contacted by the Glens Falls Hospital scheduling staff within 10 days of your scheduled appointment, please call 926-5333.

On the day of the exam, please report directly to the GI Center, located past the emergency room entrance on the left (east) side of the hospital around to the back of the hospital. The parking lot for the GI Center is located on the back (south) side of the hospital immediately adjacent to the entrance to the GI Center. Whenever possible, please leave valuables including personal belongings at home. As well, please remove all jewelry, including piercings, and leave at home.

FLEXIBLE SIGMOIDOSCOPY is an examination of the rectum and lower part of the large intestine (sigmoid colon) by means of a flexible tube with a bright light. This flexible tube is called a sigmoidoscope and it relays images from inside your colon to a video screen viewed by the physician. After you have completed your preparation at home, you will come to the GI Center, where the test will be explained, and you will be given an opportunity to ask questions prior to signing an informed consent form. This is a routine procedure performed without sedation.

When you are comfortable, the doctor will examine your rectum, and then insert the lubricated tip of the tube. During this test, some people experience gas-like sensations or cramps. This relates to the insufflation of air necessary for a proper examination. You might also experience the feeling that you need to move your bowels. This is caused by the presence of the tube and the air. The examination usually takes approximately 5 to 10 minutes.

The instrument is able to suction any leftover laxative solution and the air put into you, as needed for your comfort. It is possible to take biopsies and remove polyps through a channel in the tube and this procedure is painless.

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When the procedure has been completed, you may use the bathroom and get dressed. The doctor will then explain the results to you and your family. **Patients can expect to be at the GI Center for 1 to 1-1/2 hours from the time of admission for the procedure to the time of discharge.**

PLEASE NOTE:

1. **Please follow the instructions “Fleet Enema Preparation” on the next page.**
2. **You may consume a normal diet and take all of your usual medications the day of the exam unless otherwise directed by our office.**
3. **Our office will provide you with specific instructions if you are taking any of the following medications:**
 - **Anticoagulant medications (blood thinners) such as warfarin (Coumadin, Jantoven), Pradaxa (dabigatran), Xarelto (rivaroxaban), Eliquis (apixaban), Savaysa (edoxaban)**
 - **Antiplatelet medications such as Plavix (clopidogrel), Brilinta (ticagrelor), Effient (prasugrel)**
4. **All other medications may be continued, including aspirin and nonsteroidal anti- inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs e.g. Celebrex, Bextra, Voltaren, Naprosyn, Motrin, Advil, Aleve). If you have any questions regarding your medications, please contact our office.**
5. If your insurance plan requires a referral from your primary care physician, please confirm that our office has received a referral to cover this procedure. If your insurance plan requires pre-authorization for this procedure, please confirm that our office has obtained the pre-authorization.
6. **The forwarded green colored Glens Falls Hospital GI Center Pre-Admission History form must be completed prior to presenting for your procedure. Failure to complete this important form may lead to significant delays and/or cancellation of your procedure(s).**
7. Due to the increasing number of patients with high deductible plans, all deductibles, copays and coinsurance are due five days prior to your appointment. Payment should be mailed or brought to our office at Five Irongate Center, Glens Falls, New York. If our office does not receive payment within the above timeframe, your procedure will need to be rescheduled.

FLEET ENEMA PREPARATION FOR FLEXIBLE SIGMOIDOSCOPY

You are scheduled for flexible sigmoidoscopy at the Glens Falls Hospital and will need to purchase **two** Fleet Enemas (plain, not oil). Fleet enema (green and white box) is a brand of enema which is available over the counter at your local pharmacy.

The day of the examination

1. **90 minutes prior to your procedure appointment**, administer the Fleets enemas rectally, as directed on the package. The enemas are given one after the other, not simultaneously and should be retained for as long as possible.
2. **Please do not use any other laxative preparation for the examination.**

There are multiple charges you will incur when having a procedure performed. The physician performing your procedure will have a charge, the facility where you have your procedure performed will have a facility charge and if you have a biopsy taken or polyp removed there will also be a fee for pathology services. Most patients will undergo conscious sedation which is given by our physicians and included in the physician charge, but if you are scheduled for anesthesiologist assisted sedation, there will also be a charge for the anesthesiologist.

The Physicians of Gastroenterology Associates of Northern New York, P.C. participate with the following insurance plans:

Aetna
Blue Shield of Northeastern New York
CDPHP
Emblem Health (GHI)
Empire Blue Cross
Fidelis
Magnacare (Health Republic)
Martins Point
Medicare
MVP
New York State Empire Plan
New York State Medicaid
Shared Health Network

If your insurance plan is not listed above, please call our billing office at 793-5034 to discuss your insurance coverage and financial responsibility.

You will need to contact the facility where you are scheduled for your procedure to discuss whether they participate with your insurance company. They will also be able to answer questions about the pathology services. If you are scheduled for your procedure at Northern GI Endoscopy our billing office can help answer any insurance questions you may have regarding the facility fees or pathology fees.

Our physicians have privileges and perform procedures at Glens Falls Hospital, Saratoga Surgery Center and Northern GI Endoscopy.