



Medication FAQ's

Question: Do I take all my normal medications the week before the procedure?

Answer: Most medications will not affect the procedure. We want you to maintain your daily medication schedule including your blood pressure, diabetic, thyroid, anxiety, depression, anti seizure, pain control, neuropathy, and supplements. Please see detailed instructions below for medication limitations. If you are not sure please ask your physician.

Question: Can I take anything for headaches prior to the procedure?

Answer: Yes. Tylenol (acetaminophen) is acceptable and preferred. See NSAID's below.

Question: Do I have to fill out the medication sheet if my meds are on file at the office?

Answer: Yes. This sheet is required for the Center to meet Health and State regulations. Please list all your prescription and over the counter (OTC) medications you take on a regular basis (even if you stopped them for this procedure).

Question: Do I take my medications the day of the procedure?

Answer: Yes to pertinent medications. Blood Pressure, thyroid, anti seizure, anxiety, depression, and pain control medications are ok to take. We want your blood pressure controlled, please take this medication! Vitamins, supplements, any medication that is not required daily please hold off until after the procedure. Yes it is OK to take red/purple coated medications.

Question: If I was given a prescription for antibiotics, when do I take them?

Answer: You can take the prescribed antibiotic two hours prior to your procedure time with sips of water.

Question: I was told not to drink anything during the two (2) hours prior to my procedure how can I take my medication if my procedure time is before 9:00 am?

Answer: Please take your blood pressure medication and any medication that can affect you if you do not take it (ex. Anti seizure meds) with minimal sip of water, enough to swallow the pill. If you are not sure if you should take the medication, please ask your physician.

Please inform your doctor if you are taking any of the following medications:

Blood Thinning Medications include but not limited to: Warfarin/Coumadin, Pradaxa, Xarelto, Aspirin, Plavix, Effient/Prasugrel, NSAIDS (Ibuprofen, Naproxen, Motrin, Advil, Aleve, Excedrin), Vitamin E, Fish Oil, Alli®

Turn over for more FAQ's

Medication FAQ's (continued)

- **Warfarin/Coumadin:** After clearance is obtained from your cardiologist you will be instructed on when to stop taking your Coumadin prior to your procedure date. **A blood draw (usually STAT) is required the day before your procedure and needs to be drawn early am (prior to 10am) to get the results by the afternoon.** (Afternoon draws are not guaranteed to return results the day before procedure which could possibly delay or move your procedure day back. Doing your procedure safely is a priority for every patient.)
- **Plavix/Aspirin, Pradaxa, Effient/Prasugrel:** After clearance is obtained from your cardiologist or PCP you will be instructed by our clinical staff on whether or not to stop the medication prior to procedure and for how long. A blood draw is not required for this medication.
- All other blood thinners should be stopped seven (7) days prior to your procedure date. These include, but are not limited to, those listed above. If you are not sure please ask your physician.

Diabetic Medications:

If you are having a colonoscopy:

- **Oral glycemics:** Your prep day (the day before the procedure) is liquids only. You can take your glycemics in half doses. Check your blood sugar as normal. Do not take any glycemics the day of your procedure.
- **Short acting insulin:** Check your blood sugar as normal. If your sugar is elevated, cut the dose of what you would normally take in half and recheck your sugar. If still elevated please call 829-8855 and ask to speak to a center nurse or call your endocrinologist for further instructions. Do not take any insulin the day of the procedure.
- **Long acting insulin:** This medication is usually taken at night (ex. Lantus) before bedtime. **DO NOT** take this medication the night before the procedure. You have not had any solid food during the day and will not be eating until after your procedure.

If you are having an upper endoscopy only (EGD):

- There are no diet restrictions the day before your procedure, continue your oral and/or insulin medications as routine during the day. If you take long acting insulin (ex. Lantus) at night please consult your physician for instructions to take full or half dose of this medication.

Blood Pressure Medication:

- Take your blood pressure medications up to and including the day of your procedure. If you have an am procedure prior to 9:00 am, please take your medication with a minimal sip of water, enough to swallow the pill at least two hours prior to procedure. Preferably take your medications at two (2) hours or longer prior to your procedure. If you take your blood pressure medication at night, please wait approximately one to one and half (1-1 ½) hours after finishing the laxative prep solution and then take your medication.