



PARACENTESIS PROCEDURE INFORMATION

You have been scheduled for an evaluation of abdominal fluid and paracentesis procedure at the Digestive Health Center at the University of Virginia Hospital. If you feel you do not have an accumulation of fluid prior to the appointment, please call 434-924-9999 to reschedule the appointment. Prior to the procedure your abdomen will be checked for fluid. A paracentesis will only be done if enough fluid has accumulated.

Your appointment is on _____. Please arrive to register at_____.

1. You will need to have a friend or family member attend this appointment. They will need to be able to drive you home. We will need to be able to contact them at all times while you are with us.
2. Your time with us may range from 3-6 hours. In order to have seating for all Digestive Health patients, we ask that only one person be in the waiting room with you. Please leave all jewelry and piercings at home.
3. You may have a light meal 4 hours prior to the procedure. You may drink up until 2 hours prior to arrival.
4. If you are on medicine for diabetes please call your Primary care doctor to have diabetic medicine doses changed for the day of your procedure, because you will not eat a normal diet on the morning of your appointment.
5. If you are on prescription blood thinners please call us at 434-243-6346.
6. If you have medicines for heart conditions or blood pressure, please take them as usual on the morning of your appointment. Please bring a list of your medicines with you.

You will receive a phone call the week prior to your appointment to answer questions and review instructions. Preparing for this procedure is very important! If you have questions, call 434-243-6346 Mon-Fri 8-4:30 to speak to an Endoscopy Coordinator. Thank you for using The Digestive Health Center at The University of Virginia.