

GULF COAST ENDOSCOPY CENTER OF VENICE
Financial Policy

Thank you for choosing Gulf Coast Endoscopy Center! We believe that establishing a written financial policy is mutually beneficial for all parties. It is our goal to avoid any miscommunication or concerns regarding financial matters in order to focus our energies on providing healthcare services to our patients. Please do not rely on information posted without contacting our facility and/or your insurance company to confirm that it applies to you.

Services may be provided in this health care facility by the facility as well as by other health care providers who may separately bill the patient and who may or may not participate with the same health insurers or health maintenance organizations as the facility, as applicable.

All services performed at Gulf Coast Endoscopy Center are billed by the individual entities. The physician who performs the procedure will bill for their office visits and the actual procedure performed at the facility. Gulf Coast Endoscopy Center bills for the facility fee which includes the medical equipment, supplies, medications and clinical staff. If you receive anesthesia, Anesthesia Associates of Southwest Florida will bill for the professional component of that service. If biopsies are taken there will be an additional charge from the pathology lab used.

We participate with most insurance plans. All insurance plans have different benefits as well as different financial obligations; we will verify your coverage as best as we can. Not all insurance policies cover all services. **It is your responsibility to check with your insurance company to determine covered benefits; we will assist as best as we can.**

The following are our financial guidelines relative to financial responsibility:

- Payment of co-pays, co-insurance and deductibles is expected at the time of service.
- Please provide a copy of your insurance card and driver's license at each visit.
- Previous balances on your account must be paid in full prior to receiving additional procedures.
- Interest may be applied to accounts with an outstanding balance after 60 days of non-payment.
- Accounts may be turned over to a collection agency if past due 90 days or more.
- Our bank's service charge will be added for returned checks.
- Patients are legally responsible for all collection costs involved with the collection of this account including court costs, reasonable attorney fees and all other expenses incurred with collection if patient defaults on any unpaid balance.
- Under certain financial hardship circumstances, payment plans may be arranged.
- For dire situations, discount and/or charity care may be applied for, please contact the Center for more information. The application and policy can be found on our website www.gulfcoastendocenter.com under the Things to Know tab, Charity Care page or we can send it to you, please call 941-484-5000.

If your colonoscopy has been scheduled for screening (you have no symptoms* with your bowels) and your doctor finds a polyp or tissue that has to be removed during the procedure, this colonoscopy is no longer considered a screening procedure. It is considered a surgical procedure and your insurance benefits may change. Please check with your insurance company prior to starting the bowel preparation.

*** Symptoms such as change in bowel habits, diarrhea, constipation, bleeding, anemia, etc.**

Patients and prospective patients may request from this facility and other health care providers a personalized estimate of charges and other information. Patients and prospective patients should contact each health care practitioner who will provide services in the ASC to determine the health insurers and health maintenance organizations with which the health care practitioner participates as a network provider or preferred provider. The requested estimate will be provided to the patient within seven (7) days.

Health care practitioners and other ancillary provider information are listed on our website at www.gulfcoastendocenter.com.

Quality measures and statistics that are disseminated by the State of Florida Agency for Healthcare Administration pursuant to S.408.05 F.S. are available at www.Floridahealthfinder.gov.

We appreciate the opportunity to participate in your healthcare. If you have any questions regarding this policy, please contact us, the phone number is 941.484.5000.