



Northeast Georgia Medical Center

Microwave Ablation

How should I prepare for this procedure?

- You must not eat or drink anything after midnight the night before your procedure. A sip of water with certain approved medications is the only thing acceptable to be taken by mouth.
- For Gainesville procedures, you will need to arrive an hour and a half before your scheduled appointment time. For Braselton procedures, you will need to arrive an hour to an hour and a half before your scheduled appointment time. For Barrow procedures, you will need to arrive an hour before your scheduled appointment time.
- A nurse from the Interventional Radiology department will reach out to you via phone the day before your procedure.
- For your safety, you must have a caregiver or responsible adult with you to drive you home after your procedure. Due to the effects of anesthesia, sedation, or other post-procedural effects, you will not be able to drive yourself. Additionally, the responsible adult accompanying you will assume responsibility for you upon discharge. This person should be someone who can provide support and care as needed while you recover.
- Blood thinners need to be held for this procedure. You will need to check with your primary care provider that it is acceptable for your blood thinners to be held for this procedure.

What should I expect when I arrive?

- For Gainesville, you will go to the registration department in the Blue tower of the hospital. When you arrive in the main lobby of the Blue tower, go down the hallway on your left. The registration department is located on the right. Labs will be drawn here if necessary.
- For Braselton, you will go in through the main entrance and check in at the desk. You will be directed to registration from there. Labs will be drawn here if necessary.
- For Barrow, you will go to the registration desk located inside the main entrance of the hospital.
- After registration, you will go to the radiology waiting room. A staff member will show you back to the Interventional Radiology department. Your driver can accompany you back to the prep area.
- A provider and nurse will explain the procedure, go over discharge instructions, and decide what medications can be safely given. An IV for medication administration will be placed.
- When it is time to go to the IR lab for your procedure, your driver will be shown to the waiting room.

What medications will be offered during this procedure?

- General anesthesia is used for this procedure.
- A breathing tube will be placed, and you will be monitored by an anesthesiologist.

What should I expect during my procedure?



Northeast Georgia Medical Center

- When it is time for your procedure, your nurse will take you to the procedure room where the anesthesia team will be waiting.
- You will be put to sleep on your stretcher. Once you are asleep, your team will work together to get you positioned on the CT table.
- Once your tech and nurse are ready, the doctor will be paged to the procedure room.
- The doctor will use the CT machine to place the probe in the site where the ablation will take place.
- Once everything is done, you will be put back on your stretcher. The anesthesia team will work on waking you up.
- Your nurse will wheel you back to the IR nursing department for recovery.

What should I expect after my procedure?

- You will be discharged home with pain and nausea medication prescriptions.
- You can expect to stay in recovery for a minimum of 2 hours after your procedure.
- There will be follow-up appointments ordered by a provider before you leave the hospital.