



# Colonoscopy Instructions

PATIENT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

PHYSICIAN: \_\_\_\_\_

PROCEDURE DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ARRIVAL TIME: \_\_\_\_\_

LOCATION: \_\_\_\_\_

OFFICE PHONE NUMBER 610-374-4401 ~ HOURS 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM

**YOUR MEDICATION INSTRUCTIONS:** \_\_\_\_\_ **initial here**

- Stop taking medications with Iron 5 days prior to the procedure.
- Continue all prescribed medications unless otherwise instructed, including aspirin and Plavix.
- Stop any blood thinning medications only if you were instructed to do so.
- Take your medications 4 or more hours before your scheduled procedure with a sip of water. If you are not able to take them prior to 4 hours before your procedure, please wait until after your procedure.
- Do not drink any fluid within 4 hours of your procedure or it may be rescheduled.**
- Diabetics:** If you have diabetes, check with your physician to see if changes are needed. Do not take your usual oral diabetic medications the morning of your procedure. Check your blood sugar before arrival. Call the office 717-869-4600 if your blood sugar is 70 or below. Notify the staff immediately upon arrival as well.

**SPECIAL MEDICATION INSTRUCTIONS:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## **What is a Colonoscopy?**

**A colonoscopy is a test that allows the physician to examine the lining of the large intestine with a thin flexible instrument. Polyps, or small growths, can be removed to prevent colon cancer. Biopsies can be taken to diagnose other diseases.**

- *An intravenous (IV) catheter will be inserted into a vein in your arm to provide hydration and medication to keep you asleep during your procedure.*
- *You will receive nasal oxygen. We will monitor your heart rate, blood pressure and blood oxygen level throughout the procedure.*
- *Air or carbon dioxide and water will be placed into your colon during the exam. It is normal to expel these after the procedure.*
- *You will rest in the recovery room after the procedure until you can tolerate liquids, walk unassisted, and have stable vital signs.*

### **THE ENTIRE PROCESS TAKES ABOUT 2 HOURS.**

If the start of your procedure is delayed, we will do our best to keep you informed. Rest assured that during your colonoscopy you will receive the highest quality care.

## **IMPORTANT**

### **72 HOURS NOTICE IS REQUIRED FOR CANCELLATION.**

**IF YOU CANCEL LESS THAN 72 HOURS BEFORE YOUR PROCEDURE, YOU WILL BE CONSIDERED A "NO SHOW" AND CHARGED A \$50 FEE. THIS FEE IS NOT COVERED BY INSURANCE.**

## **PREPARATION: 1 Week before your procedure**

- ❑ You will receive anesthesia during the procedure, *so a responsible adult MUST accompany you to your colonoscopy. This person MUST bring you to the office, stay in the building the entire time, then bring you home. The side effects of anesthesia are sometimes dizziness, forgetfulness and sleepiness therefore:*
  - You may NOT be dropped off for your procedure.
  - A responsible adult must accompany you and stay with you if you take public transportation.
  - Bus, taxi, shuttle or UBER drivers CANNOT be your responsible driver.
  - If you do not have a responsible adult to accompany and stay with you, your procedure will be rescheduled.
  
- ❑ **Medication: See page 1.**
  
- ❑ **Purchase Prep:**

For your convenience, a Colonoscopy Prep Kit can be purchased at the office. This Kit includes the necessary prep, Simethicone and 4 laxative tablets.  
*Please read directions carefully when mixing your prep.*

Or you may purchase your own:



### **Miralax Laxative Powder (238g or 8.3 oz)**

This will be mixed with 64 oz. clear liquid of your choice:

- ★ Water
- ★ Clear juice – apple, white grape, lemonade
- ★ Gatorade or similar sports drinks
- ★ Kool Aid, Crystal Light
  
- ★ **NO RED OR PURPLE JUICE**
- ★ **NO JUICE WITH PULP**
- ★ **NO DAIRY DRINKS**
- ★ **NO ALCOHOL**

**Dulcolax four 5 mg tablets**

**Simethicone (Gas-X) two 125 mg tablets**

## PREPARATION: 2-3 Days before your procedure

### DO:

Drink plenty of fluids – at least eight 8 oz glasses per day.

This will help avoid dehydration, make the prep work more effectively and make you feel better overall.



### DO NOT:

Do not eat any of the following foods, as they can remain in your colon after the completion of your prep:

- Seeds
- Nuts
- Oatmeal
- Whole grains
- Beans
- Peas
- Corn
- Peels of fruits or vegetables

*A successful colonoscopy is a collaboration between you and your physician. Following these instructions is necessary so the physician can properly perform the procedure.*

*Failure to follow these directions may result in a poor prep and the need for your procedure to be repeated or rescheduled.*

### **Medications:**

Review any personalized instructions on page 1.

### **Responsible Adult:**

Review requirement for the person accompanying you to your procedure on page two. **Remember, a responsible adult must accompany you to your colonoscopy and stay until discharge.**

### **Other Items:**

- Wear comfortable clothes. You may feel bloated after the procedure.
- Leave valuables at home or with the adult accompanying you.
- Remove all jewelry, including body piercings.

# PREPARATION: The day before your procedure

## No Solid Food Starting at 12 noon today

<p><b>Before 12 noon</b> <i>the Day Before</i> <b>your Colonoscopy</b></p>	<p>Eat a <u>fiber-free</u> breakfast including any or all the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ 2 fried or boiled eggs</li> <li>★ 1/2 cup milk</li> <li>★ 1/2 cup yogurt (<i>not red or purple or with pieces of other foods</i>)</li> <li>★ Up to 2 slices of cheese</li> <li>★ 2-3 slices of White Bread</li> <li>★ 1 Tablespoon butter or olive oil</li> </ul>
<p><b>After 12 noon</b> <i>the Day Before</i> <b>your Colonoscopy</b></p> <p><b>NO SOLID FOOD</b></p>	<p>Follow a diet of <b><u>CLEAR LIQUIDS ONLY</u></b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Water</li> <li>★ Coffee or tea, <i>without milk or cream</i></li> <li>★ Clear juice – apple, white grape, lemonade (no pulp)</li> <li>★ Broth, bouillon</li> <li>★ Gatorade or similar sports drinks</li> <li>★ Kool Aid, Crystal Light</li> <li>★ Carbonated soft drinks – Coke, Sprite (regular or diet)</li> <li>★ Jell-O™ (no added fruit or toppings; not red or purple)</li> <li>★ Popsicles (not red or purple)</li> <li>★ <b>NO RED OR PURPLE JUICE</b></li> <li>★ <b>NO JUICE WITH PULP</b></li> <li>★ <b>NO DAIRY DRINKS</b></li> <li>★ <b>NO ALCOHOL</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>2:00 pm</b> <i>the Day Before</i> <b>your Colonoscopy</b></p> <p><b>NO SOLID FOOD</b></p>	<p>Take four 5 mg Dulcolax Tablets with 8 oz. water.</p> <p>Prepare the prep: If you purchased your prep in the office, please follow the mixing instructions carefully or if purchased on your own mix the entire bottle of Miralax (Polyethylene glycol) 238 g in 64 oz of clear liquid.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Find a nearby bathroom!</i></p>
<p><b>6:00 pm</b> <i>the Day Before</i> <b>your Colonoscopy</b></p> <p><b>NO SOLID FOOD</b></p>	<p>First Dose of Liquid Prep (32 oz):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Drink 8 oz's of liquid prep every half hour for 2 hours <i>while also drinking</i> four to eight 8 oz. glasses of clear liquid.</li> <li>★ Try your best to do this to prevent dehydration.</li> </ul>

# PREPARATION: The day of your procedure

## No Solid Food Today Prior to your Procedure

### AFTER YOUR COLONOSCOPY

<p><b>6 HOURS BEFORE YOUR APPOINTMENT</b></p> <p><b>NO SOLID FOOD</b></p>	<p>Second Dose of Liquid Prep (32 oz):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>★ Drink 8 oz's of liquid prep every half hour for 2 hours <i>while also drinking</i> four to eight 8 oz. glasses of clear liquid.</li><li>★ Take 2 Simethicone (Gas-X) tablets after completing the Miralax drink.</li><li>★ Try your best to do this to prevent dehydration.</li><li>★ The goal is to have slightly yellow and liquid stool</li><li>★ This is the time when morning medications should be taken or wait until after your procedure.</li></ul>
<p><b>4 HOURS BEFORE YOUR APPOINTMENT</b></p> <p><b>NO FOOD OR DRINK</b></p>	<p>All prep and clear liquids MUST be completed 4 hours prior to your appointment.</p> <p>No additional liquids or your procedure may be rescheduled.</p> <p>No hard candy, chewing gum or medications.</p> <p>Nothing by mouth.</p>

For routine questions, call our office at 610-374-4401 between 8:00am and 5:00 pm.

IF YOU HAVE AN URGENT CONCERN, CALL 610-374-4401 TO REACH OUR ON-CALL PHYSICIAN AFTER HOURS.

- Rest and relax for the remainder of the day.
- We recommend that a responsible adult stay with you for 24 hours following your procedure.
- Resume your normal diet slowly and as tolerated.
- A feeling of fullness or cramping from remaining air or carbon dioxide may occur. This is totally normal. Mild activity such as walking will help to expel any excess gas. Lying on your left side or directly on your stomach may also help.
- Do not drive or operate any machinery, sign any legal documents, or make critical decisions or return to work until the next day.
- Do not drink alcohol or take any unprescribed medication.
- Mild abdominal discomfort or a small amount of rectal bleeding is not unusual after the procedure. However, if you experience significant pain, rectal bleeding, fever and vomiting or any other worrisome symptoms please notify your physician immediately.
- Follow up with your physician's recommendations for continued colon health.