



OPEN ACCESS COLONOSCOPY

Greater Houston Gastroenterology, PLLC now offers "Open Access Colonoscopy" to healthy patients who are eligible for colon cancer screening. In order to improve the convenience of the exam, a pre-procedure visit may no longer be required for some patients (with exceptions), saving patient time and effort.

STEP 1: (SUBMIT TO PHYSICIAN OFFICE)

In order to schedule a screening colonoscopy, please download the "Open Access Colonoscopy Package" online.

After completing the forms, please fax them to 713-795-5254.

All the above information will be subject to review by our physician and insurance verification. Our office will contact the patient within 10 business days to schedule a colonoscopy appointment.

***Sign up** for patient portal to get your result faster! Please make sure you provide us with your email address in the Patient Information Form.*

STEP 2: (PATIENT COPY)

Once our office contacts you to schedule your colonoscopy appointment, you can proceed with Step 2 to review the details of your appointment.

* **Preparation:** Please follow the Preparation Instruction for your colonoscopy. Alternate preparation is available, our office will instruct you the one that most suitable for your medical status.

- * **Location:**
1. Physician Endoscopy Center
3030 S. Gessner, Suite 150
Houston, TX 77063
Tel: 713-587-0909
 2. Texas International Endoscopy Center
6620 Main Street, Ste 1500, Houston, TX 77030
Tel: 713-520-8432
 3. The O'Quinn Medical Tower at St. Luke's (formerly St. Luke's Medical Tower)
6624 Fannin Street, 9th Floor, Houston, TX 77030
Tel: 832-355-8177

* **What is Colonoscopy?** Please review for Patient Education.

confidential fax

To: Greater Houston Gastroenterology, PLLC

Attn: Open Access Coordinator

Fax Number: (713) 795-5254

Phone Number: (713) 795-4444

From: _____

Phone: _____

Pages: _____ (including this cover page)

Date: _____

Subject: OPEN ACCESS COLONOSCOPY PACKAGE

*Please send all the following forms:

1. Copy of picture ID
2. Insurance card (front and back)
3. Medical History Checklist
4. Financial Policy
5. Patient Information Form
6. Screening Colonoscopy Form
7. Procedure Fees Explanation/Authorization Form

This is my first time to have this procedure.

This is a repeat procedure, last colonoscopy was done _____ years ago
by Dr. _____.

Appointment Preference: Mon AM PM
 Tue AM PM
 Wed AM PM
 Thur AM PM
 Fri AM PM
 Sat AM (Dr. Rajman only)

First available
 No Preference



SCREENING COLONOSCOPY QUESTIONNAIRE

Patient's name (First name, Last Name): _____ Date of Birth: _____

Height: _____ Weight: _____ lbs

Prefer Gastroenterologist: Isaac Rajjman, MD Dang M Nguyen, MD H. Chami Amaratunge, MD

- 1. Do you have any history of heart, lung, liver and kidney disease(s)? YES NO
2. Do you have a pacemaker or implanted defibrillator device? YES NO
3. Are you anemic? Or suffer from anemia? YES NO
4. Are you on any blood thinner (Coumadin) or high risk medications we should be aware of? YES NO
5. Have you been diagnosed with Inflammatory Bowel Disease(IBD)? YES NO
6. Have you had any severe, frequent changes in your bowel habits in the last 30 days? For example, diarrhea, constipation, or other. YES NO
7. Have you notice any bright red or brown blood in your stools? YES NO
8. Have you had any frequent cramping and /or abdominal and tenderness in the past 14 days that cannot explain? YES NO
9. Are you experiencing any rectal pain that will not subside? YES NO
10. Have you had a drop in your weight, without diet or increased exercise that would cause concern? YES NO
11. Do you feel any areas of weakness and fatigue that is more than the norm with bowel changes? YES NO
12. Are you over 50 years old and your primary care physician referred you for a colonoscopy screening? YES NO
13. Do you have any family history of any cancers? YES NO
If yes, what kind? _____
When? _____ Who? _____
14. Have you had any previous endoscopy? YES NO
If yes, what kind? _____ When? _____
Result? _____
15. Have you had any surgical procedure(s)? YES NO
If yes, what kind? _____ When? _____ \
Result? _____
16. Are you taking any medications? YES NO
If so, please list: _____

Patent's Signature: _____

Date: _____



FINANCIAL POLICY

Welcome to Greater Houston Gastroenterology, PLLC (GHG) and thank you for choosing us! We appreciate your confidence and goodwill. To ensure that we have financial stability and can continue to provide medical services to the community and region, the following policies shall be enforced:

Self Pay/Non-Contracted Plans:

- All charges are due and payable at time of service. We accept cash, checks, and major credit cards. We may reschedule the appointment if payment is not made prior to the services rendered.

Patients with insurance:

- GHG will submit a claim for the current services to your insurance carrier. Insurance carriers are required to pay their portion of the claim within 45 days of receipt. When an insurance carrier is required to pay GHG for a service that has been provided, you are only responsible for what is considered the patient portion of the claim. However, if your insurance carrier rejects, delays, withholds, denies payment of its portion or covers only a portion of treatment for more than 90 days from the date of service, both the insurance and patient portions of your account then become your responsibility. If we subsequently receive payment from your insurance carrier, we will credit your account for the amount of the payment.
- It is the patient's responsibility to determine whether a referral is required, and the referral can be requested from your primary care physician. If you do not obtain a referral from your primary care physician prior to receiving services or a referral cannot be verified by our office, you have the option of re-scheduling your appointment. If you keep your appointment and/or receive services in our office, it is with the understanding that your health plan may not pay for charges related to the services provided by Greater Houston Gastroenterology, PLLC and that without a referral you will be responsible for payment of all charges.
- Pre-existing clause: If the patient has a current pre-existing clause in the policy, the patient is required to pay the full charge for the service being rendered instead of patient's copay.

No-Show and Cancellation Policy:

- If the patient fails to cancel his/her office appointment at least 24 hours in advance, the patient is responsible for \$45 fee which will not be applied to any copay, deductible or coinsurance. For a procedure, the patient must cancel at least 48 hours in advance or is responsible for \$100 fee with same conditions.

Delinquent / Unpaid Account:

- Prior to providing services, payment of prior outstanding accounts will be requested and should be received. Patients with unpaid delinquent accounts or accounts which have been written off to bad debt may be denied treatment if not medically urgent.
- Accounts which cannot be collected by the physician after normal in-house collection procedures may be referred to a collection agency, magistrate, or attorney for further collection action in accordance with the physician's established guidelines. Changes shown by statements are agreed to be correct and reasonable unless protested in writing within (30) thirty days of billing.

Refunds:

- Overpayments will be refunded to the appropriate party, normally the insurance company or guarantor. Patients' refunds will not be processed until all active or past due accounts are paid in full.

Third Party Litigation:

- Our physician will not become involved in disputes arising from third party claims (i.e. automobile accidents, liability claims, etc.)

Insurance / Disability forms:

- There will be a \$25 handling fee to cover the administrative fee for writing a letter or filling out claims forms, such as insurance forms and disability forms (except Medicare patients). The fee is due once the form is completed, and the patient will be directly responsible for this fee.

Returned Checks:

- Checks returned to Greater Houston Gastroenterology, PLLC for insufficient funds, closed account, stopped payment, or for any other reason will be subject to \$50.00 fee.

Medical Record:

- A reasonable fee of \$25.00 shall be charged for the first twenty pages and \$0.50 per page for every copy thereafter. Requests will be completed within ten (10) business days.

I, the patient/patient's legal representative, understand and agree to abide by the financial policy set forth.

Printed Name

Signature of Parent (or Personal Representative)

Date

Patient Information

GREATER HOUSTON GASTROENTEROLOGY

PATIENT NAME (First Name, Middle Initial, Last Name)	DATE OF BIRTH	AGE	PRIMARY PHONE (HOME)	SECONDARY PHONE (WORK /CELL)
ADDRESS	SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER		SEX (M or F)	MARITAL STATUS
CITY, STATE, ZIP	EMERGENCY CONTACT PERSON		RELATIONSHIP TO PATIENT	CONTACT PHONE
EMPLOYER NAME & ADDRESS	OCCUPATION		E-MAIL ADDRESS	
RACE	ETHNICITY PLEASE CIRCLE HISPANIC / LATINO OR NOT HISPANIC / LATINO		LANGUAGE	

REFERRING DOCTOR NAME, ADDRESS & TELEPHONE NO.

PRIMARY CARE DOCTOR NAME, ADDRESS & TELEPHONE NO.

Pharmacy – Please provide your pharmacy information for your colonoscopy prescription.

PHARMACY NAME & ADDRESS	TELEPHONE NO.
-------------------------	---------------

Primary Insurance (please attach insurance card)

(If you have Medicare and other insurance, please refer to Appendix A for reference.)

INSURED'S NAME (First Name, Middle Initial, Last Name)	INSURANCE MEMBER SERVICE TELEPHONE NO.	INSURED'S HOME PHONE	INSURED'S WORK / CELL PHONE NO.
INSURED'S ADDRESS		INSURED'S DATE OF BIRTH	INSURED'S SOCIAL SECURITY NO.
INSURED'S CITY, STATE, ZIP		INSURED'S SEX (M or F)	INSURED'S RELATION TO PATIENT
INSURED'S EMPLOYER		INSURED'S OCCUPATION	
INSURANCE COMPANY NAME		INSURED'S ID #	
INSURANCE COMPANY ADDRESS		INSURED'S GROUP #	
INSURANCE COMPANY CITY, STATE, ZIP		INSURANCE COPAY AMOUNT	

Secondary Insurance (please attach insurance card)

INSURED'S NAME (First Name, Middle Initial, Last Name)	INSURANCE MEMBER SERVICE TELEPHONE NO.	INSURED'S HOME PHONE	INSURED'S WORK / CELL PHONE NO.
INSURED'S ADDRESS		INSURED'S DATE OF BIRTH	INSURED'S SOCIAL SECURITY NO.
INSURED'S CITY, STATE, ZIP		INSURED'S SEX (M or F)	INSURED'S RELATION TO PATIENT
INSURED'S EMPLOYER		INSURED'S OCCUPATION	
INSURANCE COMPANY NAME		INSURED'S ID #	
INSURANCE COMPANY ADDRESS		INSURED'S GROUP #	
INSURANCE COMPANY CITY, STATE, ZIP		INSURANCE COPAY AMOUNT	

Authorization and Acknowledgement

AUTHORIZATION: I / We hereby state that the above information is true and correct to the best of my / our knowledge. I / We authorize the above named practice to release any information acquired in the course of my treatment to my insurance company, employer, Physicians, institutions or third party payors, as required for certain claims filed. _____ Initials

ASSIGNMENT OF BENEFITS STATEMENT: I / We authorize direct payment to be made to the above named practice for any and all medical or surgical services rendered. I understand if any services or charges are not covered by my insurance carrier or my eligibility can not be verified, I am responsible for all charges incurred. _____ Initials

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OR RECEIPT OF PRIVACY NOTICE: I hereby acknowledge receipt of the Notice of Privacy Practices (attached) given to me by the above company. _____ Initials [] Consent refused by patient. Witness by: _____

Printed Name _____

Signature of Patient (or Personal Representative) _____

Date _____



**GREATER HOUSTON
GASTROENTEROLOGY**

Isaac Raijman, MD Dang M Nguyen, MD H. Chami Amaratunge, MD
Tel: (713) 795-4444 / Fax: (713) 795-5254

**AUTHORIZATION FOR RELEASE OF HEALTH INFORMATION
TO INDIVIDUALS**

I authorize Digestive Associates of Houston, PA (DAH) to disclose and release medical or other information to the below listed individuals. I understand that this includes, but is not limited to information related to treatment, diagnosis, billing or any health care operations performed at this facility.

_____	_____	_____
Name	Relationship	Phone Number
_____	_____	_____
Name	Relationship	Phone Number
_____	_____	_____
Name	Relationship	Phone Number

I understand that all information requested will be provided to these individuals and I release DAH from all liability pertaining to the release of this information. I understand that this request can be changed at any time through a signed written request.

_____	_____	_____
Printed Name	Signature	Date

SCREENING COLONOSCOPY

(Please sign this form if you may need to schedule a screening colonoscopy)

Patients who have screening examinations have no signs or symptoms, and have a set benefit from their insurance company. You need to be informed that if the physician performing your procedure finds a polyp or abnormality, your benefits may change and your insurance policy will pay differently. The colonoscopy is no longer considered a screening procedure, it is considered a surgical procedure.

I acknowledge that I have read the above statement and will be responsible for my deductible, co-pay and out-of-pocket expenses in the event that my scheduled screening examination does result in a procedure with a polyp or abnormality.

_____	_____	_____
Printed Name	Signature	Date



GREATER HOUSTON GASTROENTEROLOGY

Isaac Raijman, MD Dang M Nguyen, MD H. Chami Amaratunge, MD
4100 S. Shepherd Drive, Houston, TX 77098
Tel: (713)795-4444 / Fax: (713)795-5254

PROCEDURE FEES EXPLANATION / AUTHORIZATION FORM (PHYSICIAN PROFESSIONAL FEE + FACILITY FEES)

The purpose of this letter is to give you information about the financial responsibility for your procedure(s). Please understand that payment of your procedure(s) is part of the treatment plan and care.

Patient's Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

1 **Physician Professional Fee**

Our practice will discuss with you in advance in regards to the estimated cost of physician professional fee for your procedure/test. Patients are responsible for any deductible and co-insurance amount which is due PRIOR to the procedure/test.

*** PLEASE NOTE: YOUR PAYMENT MUST BE RECEIVED PRIOR TO YOUR PROCEDURE DATE, OTHERWISE YOU WILL BE RESCHEDULED!**

This estimated physician professional fee is based upon our physician's present expectations of what procedure(s) will be required. We cannot be sure any additional procedure(s) will or will not be necessary.

It usually takes 30-45 days for the insurance company to pay the claim. After the insurance company pays us, we will either charge your credit card/check for any outstanding balance or refund any overpayment to patient's credit card or a refund check will be issued by our next billing cycle.

Please be aware of our No-Show and Cancellation Policy:

If the patient fails to cancel his/her procedure /test appointment at least 2 business days in advance, the patient is responsible for \$100 fee which will not be applied to any copay, deductible or coinsurance.

2 **Facility Fees: anesthesiologist, pathologist and laboratory, etc.**

You will likely receive separate bills from other healthcare providers for services that they provided while you were in the facility. Those bills are separate and apart from your physician professional fee. If you have questions about those bills, please call the number printed on their statements.

The Endoscopy may request a pre-treatment deposit, the amount of which depends on your coverage and deductible amount.

We strongly suggest that you monitor your account and the explanation of benefits forms that you received from your insurance. You should resolve all disputes involving patient portions and explanation of benefits directly with your insurance carrier.

AGREEMENT/AUTHORIZATION:

I HEREBY AUTHORIZE GREATER HOUSTON GASTROENTEROLOGY, PLLC TO CHARGE MY CREDIT CARD/CHECK FOR ANY OUTSTANDING BALANCES AND PATIENT PORTIONS OWED DIGESTIVE ASSOCIATES OF HOUSTON, AS PROVIDED IN THE FINANCIAL POLICY. I ACKNOWLEDGE THAT I HAVE READ, UNDERSTAND AND AGREE TO ALL OF THE ABOVE.

Credit Card#: Please provide us the cc# when we call you to schedule (do not write the number on this form) Exp Date: - / -

Patient's Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Witness by: _____ **Date:** _____



GREATER HOUSTON
GASTROENTEROLOGY

STEP 2

(Patient Copy)

Once our office contacts you to schedule your colonoscopy appointment, you can proceed with Step 2 to review the details of your appointment.

- * **Preparation:** Please follow the Preparation Instruction for your colonoscopy as closely as possible. There are two preparation instructions attached, our office will instruct you the one that most suitable for your medical status.
- * **Location:**
1. Physician Endoscopy Center
3030 S. Gessner, Suite 150
Houston, TX 77063
Tel: 713-587-0909
 2. Texas International Endoscopy Center
6620 Main Street, Ste 1500, Houston, TX 77030
Tel: 713-520-8432
 3. The O'Quinn Medical Tower at St. Luke's (formerly St. Luke's Medical Tower)
6624 Fannin Street, 9th Floor, Houston, TX 77030
Tel: 832-355-8177
- * **What is Colonoscopy?** Please review for Patient Education.



COLONOSCOPY PREPARATION WITH **MOVIPREP**

The following are the instructions that you will need to follow prior to your colonoscopy. Please try to follow them as closely as possible to ensure a successful procedure. It is possible that you may feel abdominal cramping, rectal discomfort, some rectal bleeding, tiredness, and headaches during the preparation. Should any of these symptoms be significant or you have concerns about them, please do not hesitate to contact us at 713-795-4444. **Failure to take this preparation as indicated below may result in a poorly cleansed colon and possible cancellation of the procedure.**

FIVE DAYS BEFORE PROCEDURE

Do not take any blood thinners such as (Aspirin, NSAID's, Plavix, Coumadin, Warfarin) during the 5 days preceding your procedure UNLESS instructed otherwise.

THE DAY BEFORE YOUR PROCEDURE (Both AM and PM procedures)

Your **MoviPrep** comes with 2 clear packets of prep solution. For your first dose, open 1 of the clear packets and pour the A pouch and the B pouch of **MoviPrep** in the container provided. Fill with water to the fill line and **refrigerate**. Do this early in the morning so the prep will be cold when you begin drinking it.

Stay on a **clear liquid diet** all day THE DAY BEFORE YOUR PROCEDURE. This includes water, black coffee (no cream), tea, lemon or lime Jello (no fruit), chicken or beef broth, apple juice, ginger ale, 7-Up, Sprite, ice pops, diet sodas (diet Coke Diet Pepsi, Diet Dr. Pepper), and clear Gatorade. Sweeteners such as Sweet&Low, Equal, and sugar are ok. **NO RED OR PURPLE BEVERAGES OR JELLO.**

Morning procedure (6:30am-12:00pm)

Follow the step above.

1st dose @ 6pm: Begin drinking MoviPrep at 6pm. Drink 8 oz. every 10-15 min. until it is all gone. Once you have completed drinking the MoviPrep solution, drink (2) 8 oz glasses of clear liquid. This will keep you hydrated.

2nd dose @ 10pm: As soon as you have completed drinking the first dose, mix the second dose. Open the remaining clear packet and pour the A pouch and the B pouch of MoviPrep in the same container provided. Fill with water to the fill line and **refrigerate**. You will drink this second dose at 10pm.

You may not have anything to eat or drink after midnight until you have the procedure on the next day.

Afternoon procedure (12:30pm-4:00pm)

Follow the day before your procedure instructions.

On the day before the procedure @ 10pm: Begin drinking MoviPrep at 10pm. Drink 8 oz. every 10-15 min. until it is all gone. Once you have completed drinking the MoviPrep solution, drink (2) 8 oz glasses of clear liquid. This will keep you hydrated.

On the day of your procedure: You may have CLEAR LIQUIDS (NO SOLID FOODS) until 8am.

5 hours prior to your scheduled procedure time: Begin drinking the MoviPrep you mixed the night before. (example: if your colonoscopy is at 1pm, you will need to begin drinking your MoviPrep at 8am). Drink 8 oz. every 10-15 min. until it is all gone. Once you have completed drinking the MoviPrep solution, drink (2) 8 oz glasses of clear liquid. This will keep you hydrated.

Medications: You may take important medications (such as heart, blood pressure, thyroid or a seizure disorder etc.) with a small sip of water on the morning of your procedure. If you are a diabetic, DO NOT take your diabetic medications on the morning of your procedure. Routine medications with the exception of blood thinning medications may be taken when you get home.

Transportation: Since a colonoscopy involves some anesthesia/sedation, you MUST have someone drive you home and stay with you during the following 4-6 hours (NO TAXI DRIVERS). They should also remain in the facility during your procedure so the physician may speak with them once you are in recovery.

TIP: Using A&D ointment, Vaseline or diaper rash ointment between bowel movements will help prevent rectal irritation. You can also use baby wipes in place of toilet tissue.

Results: The medical assistant will notify you in the mail regarding your biopsy result (if taken) within 10 business days.



COLONOSCOPY PREPARATION WITH **SUPREP**

The following are the instructions that you will need to follow prior to your colonoscopy. Please try to follow them as closely as possible to ensure a successful procedure. It is possible that you may feel abdominal cramping, rectal discomfort, some rectal bleeding, tiredness, and headaches during the preparation. Should any of these symptoms be significant or you have concerns about them, please do not hesitate to contact us at 713-795-4444. **Failure to take this preparation as indicated below may result in a poorly cleansed colon and possible cancellation of the procedure.**

FIVE DAYS BEFORE PROCEDURE

Do not take any blood thinners such as (Aspirin, NSAID's, Plavix, Coumadin, Warfarin) during the 5 days preceding your procedure UNLESS instructed otherwise.

THE DAY BEFORE YOUR PROCEDURE (Both AM and PM procedures)

Suprep comes with 2 - 6oz. bottles of prep solution. For your first dose, open 1 of the bottles and pour into the container provided. Fill with water to the fill line and refrigerate. Do this early in the morning so the prep will be cold when you begin drinking it.

Stay on a **clear liquid diet** all day THE DAY BEFORE YOUR PROCEDURE. This includes water, black coffee (no cream), tea, lemon or lime Jello (no fruit), chicken or beef broth, apple juice, ginger ale, 7-Up, Sprite, ice pops, diet sodas (diet Coke Diet Pepsi, Diet Dr. Pepper), and clear Gatorade. Sweeteners such as Sweet&Low, Equal, and sugar are ok. **NO RED OR PURPLE BEVERAGES OR JELLO.**

Morning procedure (6:30am-12:00pm)

Follow the step above.

1st dose @ 6pm: Begin drinking Suprep at 6pm. Drink 8 oz. every 10-15 min. until it is all gone. Once you have completed drinking the Suprep solution, drink 16oz glasses of water. This will keep you hydrated.

2nd dose @ 10pm: As soon as you have completed drinking the first dose, mix the second dose and refrigerate. You will drink this second dose at 10:00pm until it is all gone, plus (2) 16oz container provided of water.

You may not have anything to eat or drink after midnight until you have the procedure on the next day.

Afternoon procedure (12:30pm-4:00pm)

Follow the day before your procedure instructions.

On the day before the procedure @ 10pm: Begin drinking Suprep at 10:00pm. Drink 8 oz. every 10-15 min. until it is all gone. Once you have completed drinking Suprep solution, drink (2) 16oz glasses of water. This will keep you hydrated.

On the day of your procedure: You may have CLEAR LIQUIDS (NO SOLID FOODS) until 8am.

5 hours prior to your scheduled procedure time: Begin drinking the Suprep you mixed the night before. (example: if your colonoscopy is at 1pm, you will need to begin drinking your Suprep at 8am). Drink 8oz. every 10-15 min. until it is all gone. Once you have completed drinking the Suprep solution, drink (2) 16oz glasses of water. This will keep you hydrated.

Medications: You may take important medications (such as heart, blood pressure, thyroid or a seizure disorder etc.) with a small sip of water on the morning of your procedure. If you are a diabetic, **DO NOT** take your diabetic medications on the morning of your procedure. Routine medications with the exception of blood thinning medications may be taken when you get home.

Transportation: Since a colonoscopy involves some anesthesia/sedation, you **MUST** have someone drive you home and stay with you during the following 4-6 hours (NO TAXI DRIVERS). They should also remain in the facility during your procedure so the physician may speak with them once you are in recovery.

TIP: Using A&D ointment, Vaseline or diaper rash ointment between bowel movements will help prevent rectal irritation. You can also use baby wipes in place of toilet tissue.

Results: The medical assistant will notify you in the mail regarding your biopsy result (if taken) within 10 business days.



ENDOSCOPY CENTERS

Our office will contact you to schedule your procedure, you can use this form to remind you the information that you need for your procedure.

Procedure Date: _____

Check-in Time: _____

We are affiliated with the following Outpatient Endoscopy Centers: (Please circle the one when we schedule your appointment)

1. PHYSICIAN ENDOSCOPY CENTER

3030 S. Gessner,
Suite 150,
Houston, TX 77063
Tel: 713-587-0909

* *Free parking*



2. TEXAS INTERNATIONAL ENDOSCOPY CENTER

6620 Main Street (Baylor Clinic Bldg)
Ste 1500
Houston, TX 77030
Tel: 713-520-8432

* *Valet parking is available at the Main Street entrance*

* *The entrance to the parking garage is located on Southgate.*



3. THE O'QUINN MEDICAL TOWER AT ST. LUKE'S (FORMELY ST. LUKE'S MEDICAL TOWER)

6624 Fannin Street
9th Floor
Houston, TX 77030
Tel: 832-355-8177

* *Take the elevator near the Security desk and go to the 9th floor.*

* *Check in with the receptionist at the desk in the waiting area.*



**** Please bring your current insurance cards and any papers your doctor has given you, such as laboratory test reports, x-ray and CT scan reports.**



What is Colonoscopy?

What is a colonoscopy?

Colonoscopy is an outpatient procedure in which the rectum and the inside of the lower large intestine (colon) are examined. Colonoscopies are commonly used to evaluate bowel disorders, rectal bleeding or polyps (usually benign growths) found on contrast x-rays. Colonoscopies are also performed to screen people over age 50 for colon and rectal cancer.

What happens during a colonoscopy?

a colonoscopy, a physician uses a colonoscope (a long, flexible instrument about 1/2 diameter) to view the lining of the colon. The colonoscope is inserted through the and advanced to the large intestine. If necessary during a colonoscopy, small amounts of tissue can be removed for analysis (called a biopsy) and polyps can be identified and removed. In many cases, colonoscopy allows accurate diagnosis and treatment without the need for a major operation.

Bowel preparation

bowel must be clean in order for colonoscopy to be successful. It is very important you read and follow the instructions given to you for your bowel preparation well in advance of the test.

On the day of the procedure

physician will explain the procedure in detail, including possible complications and effects. The physician will also answer any questions you may have.

During the procedure

- The procedure is performed by a physician experienced in colonoscopy.
- You are asked to wear a hospital gown and remove eyeglasses.
- You are given a pain reliever and a sedative intravenously (in your vein). You will feel relaxed and drowsy.
- You will lie on your left side, with your knees drawn up.
- The colonoscope is inserted through the rectum and advanced to the large intestine.
- A small amount of air is used to expand the colon so the physician can see the colon walls.
- You may feel mild cramping during the procedure. Cramping can be reduced by taking slow, deep breaths.
- The colonoscope is slowly withdrawn while the lining of your bowel is carefully examined.
- The procedure lasts about 30 minutes.

What happens if a polyp is discovered?

If a polyp is discovered, a thin snare wire is passed through the colonoscopy and the polyp is encircled. The snare is tightened and an electric current is passed through the wire which cuts off the polyp. The polyp is then brought out of the colon and sent to the pathologist for further examination.

Are there any possible complications?

The possible complications of colonoscopy and polypectomy (polyp removal) include perforation (rupture) of colon, hemorrhage from the colon and side effects due to the medicines (sedatives) which are given. In very rare circumstance, death could result from a complication.

After the procedure

- You will stay in a recovery room for about 30 minutes for observation.
- You may feel some cramping or a sensation of having gas, but this usually passes quickly.
- A responsible adult must accompany you home. Do not drive or operate machinery for at least 8 hours after the procedure.
- You may resume your normal diet.
- If a biopsy was taken, you may notice light rectal bleeding for 1 to 2 days after the procedure. This is normal.

