



Getting Ready for your Colonoscopy: Golytely Prep Instructions

Physicians Name: _____

Procedure Date: _____

Arrival Time will be given 48 hours prior to procedure.

Procedure Locations:

David H Koch Building Endoscopy Center
1283 York Avenue, 8th Floor
New York, NY 10065

New York Presbyterian Hospital
Central Endoscopy Suite
525 East 68th Street, 2nd Floor
Greenberg Pavilion
New York, NY 10065

Lower Manhattan Hospital Endoscopy Suite
170 William Street,
2nd Floor
New York, NY 10028

CANCELLATION

Scheduling procedures requires careful planning between the staff, doctors, and hospital. To help avoid delays, it is important that you follow the schedule. If you must reschedule or cancel, please call us at least 3 days prior to the procedure at 646-962-4000 or email us at endoscopyquestions@med.cornell.edu. Thank you for your help and consideration.

Why Proper Colon Cleaning is Needed Before Your Colonoscopy

Food and liquids can stay in your body for a long time. If food is in your colon during your colonoscopy, the food can get in the way of seeing any problems that may exist, like tumors.

The doctor will get the best pictures of your colon when it is completely empty.

Following these instructions will help ensure that your colon is empty when you come for your procedure.

If your colon is not completely empty, the doctor will not be able to complete the exam. You will need to reschedule the exam and go through the preparation steps again.

Important Contact Info

- If you have questions about your procedure or preparation, call 646-962-4000 Monday-Friday (excluding holidays) 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
- If you are calling Monday-Friday after 5:00 p.m., during the weekend, or on a holiday, the on-call physician will reach out. If not urgent, you will be answered the next day.
- If you need to reschedule your exam for any reason, please call 646-962-4000
- If you need medical help now, call **911** or go to the nearest **Emergency Room**.



**IMPORTANT PLEASE READ DIRECTIONS CAREFULLY
AT LEAST 10 DAYS BEFORE YOUR PROCEDURE!**

ARE YOU TAKING ANTI-PLATELET MEDICATIONS or BLOOD THINNERS?

If you take blood thinners (Coumadin, Plavix, Pradaxa, Lovenox, etc), ask your prescribing doctor if you should stop these medications before your colonoscopy. Please notify our endoscopy nurse at **646-962-4000** if your doctor has recommended you **should not** stop this for your colonoscopy.

Commonly prescribed medications:

warfarin (Coumadin®)
dalteparin (Fragmin®)
tinzaparin (Innohep®)
enoxaparin (Lovenox®)
clopidogrel (Plavix®)
cilostazol (Pletal®)
dabigatran(Pradaxa®)

apixaban (Eliquis®)
rivaroxaban(Xarelto®)
prasugrel(Effient®)
ticagrelor(Brilinta®)
edoxaban (Savaysa®)
Heparin

DO NOT STOP YOUR ASPIRIN UNLESS INSTRUCTED TO DO SO BY YOUR DOCTOR

Do you have a Cardiac defibrillator (AICD) or a permanent pacemaker (PPM) Or Current Cardiac issues?

A **clearance letter** from your cardiologist is required at least 1 week before the procedure. Cardiac issues include any history of heart attack, chest pain, difficulty breathing or fainting episodes. If you have a **PPM** you will need to provide the most recent **interrogation report** (within 12 months), **AICD** (within 6 months).

Do you have Diabetes? Or on Weight loss medications?

If you are taking insulin or oral hypoglycemic pills, you should check with your prescribing doctor at least one week before your procedure for instructions on managing your medications the day before and morning of the procedure.

IF you are on SGLT2 inhibitors Ertugliflozin (Steglatro) Canagliflozin (Invokana) Empagliflozin (Jardiance) Dapagliflozin (Farxiga)

HOLD THREE DAYS PRIOR TO PROCEDURE

IF you are on a GLP-1 receptor agonist

Daily - (Liraglutide (Victoza®, Saxenda®) Exenatide (Byetta®) Semaglutide oral tablet (Rybelsus®)) –

HOLD DAY OF PROCEDURE

Weekly (Dulaglutide (Trulicity®) Exenatide (Bydureon BCise®) Semaglutide injection (Ozempic®, Wegovy®)Mounjaro

HOLD ONE WEEK PRIOR TO PROCEDURE

DO YOU HAVE HYPERTENSION?

Blood pressure medication, with the exception of diuretics (water pills), should be taken as usual on the day of the exam with a sip of water. Diuretics should be held the morning of the procedure.

If you have any questions about your medications or the prep, please call 646-962-4000.

PURCHASING THE PREP

Before your colonoscopy, you will need to pick up & purchase the following prep items.

1. **DULCOLAX**- Over-the-counter laxative tablet, called Dulcolax (not the stool softener type)- four (4) tablets.
2. **GOLYTELY**- A prescription for the Golytely will be called into your pharmacy.
3. **Gas-X** or Simethicone pills

WHERE TO GET YOUR Golytely prep

What to buy at the Pharmacy

1 Golytely (polyethylene glycol)

You can pick this up at your pharmacy.
Your doctor will prescribe this.



1 box Dulcolax or generic bisacodyl pills



1 box of Gas-X or generic simethicone pills (125 mg or 250 mg)



Colonoscopy Preparations Instructions

Seven Days Before Your Exam

Go to the pharmacy to pick up your bowel preparation. Arrange for an adult to take you home after your scheduled procedure. You cannot attend the appointment unless there is an adult to take you home after the procedure.

Five Days Before Your Exam

Stop oral iron supplements. You can resume after your procedure.

Start a low fiber diet

Do NOT eat:

raw or dried vegetables or fruit, green leafy vegetables, salads, yucca, plantains, corn, popcorn, nuts, seeds beans whole grain breads, oatmeal, cereals, granola

You can eat:

chicken, fish, beef, pork, tofu, eggs, white rice, white bread, white pastas or noodles, cooked potatoes and carrots without the skin, bananas, avocado, vanilla ice cream, popsicles, plain yogurt and cheese.

These foods are hard to digest, do not easily clear out of your colon and will make it difficult for your doctor to get a clear picture of your colon during the colonoscopy.

The Day Before Your Exam

No solid food for the entire day

You can only have **clear liquids**, such as Jell-o, popsicles, broth, tea, black coffee, and juice.

You cannot eat solid food until AFTER your exam.



Start Hydrating

ACCEPTABLE CLEAR LIQUIDS FOR HYDRATING

Water	Ginger ale and other Sodas
Black coffee or tea	Clear juices such as apple or white grape juice
Clear broth or bouillon	Plain Jell-O
Sports drink	Frozen juice popsicle

LIQUIDS MUST NOT BE RED OR PURPLE. DO NOT CONSUME ANY ALCOHOL, JUICE PULP, MILK, CREAM, SOY OR NON-DAIRY CREAMER, OR OTHER LIQUIDS YOU CANNOT SEE THROUGH UNLESS ON THE LIST ABOVE.

You can buy these as needed from the Grocery Store

1 box Chicken Bouillon/broth

(No noodles or solids in the broth)



1 box Jell-o/gelatin

(No flavors with red coloring)



1 bottle Ginger Ale or Clear Juice (no pulp)(Any brand)



1 Box popsicles

(No flavors with red coloring)



Colonoscopy Golytely Preparations Instructions

When to start your bowel preparation depends on the start time of your colonoscopy, please follow the instructions below:

One Day before exam at 9am

- Fill the 4-liter container with warm water up to the line on the side of the bottle. Shake the container with powder and water.
- You can put the container in the refrigerator to make it easier to drink

One Day before exam at 12pm

- Take two (2) Dulcolax laxative tablets with 8oz of water or other clear liquid.

One Day before exam at 5 PM

1. Take another two (2) Dulcolax laxative tablets with 8oz of water or other clear liquid.
2. Drink one 8-ounce glass of Golytely every 15 minutes until you finish HALF (½) of the bottle

This will cause you to have loose stools. Loose stool may not start until after you finish the next step of the prep.

Continue drinking even if you have diarrhea. You may have nausea – if you do- take a 60-minute break and then restart drinking to be sure your colon is clean. If you feel sick, you can stop drinking awhile. When the feeling passes, continue drinking till half the container is finished.

5 hours before your exam

1. Take one 250 mg or two 125 mg Gas-X (or generic brand simethicone) pill(s)
2. Drink an 8-ounce glass of the second half of Golytely every 15 minutes until you finish the entire bottle. You must finish drinking the mixture within 2 hours.
3. It is very important to take the second half of the mixture **the morning of your appointment** as instructed. Taking the mixture this way will make sure your entire colon is cleaned and can help the doctor get a good look inside your colon.

Do not drink anything including preparation for 3 hours before your exam.

All exams

3 hours Before Your Exam

STOP all prep. Do not drink or eat anything, including water, until your colonoscopy. This includes mints or candies. Note: If you drink or eat anything your procedure will be cancelled

You may take your regular medications, unless instructed otherwise by a doctor with, a small sip of water.



WHAT TO EXPECT – DAY OF COLONOSCOPY

Upon arrival, there will be multiple forms for you to sign and hospital staff will ask you to state and spell your name and date of birth several times.

After changing into a hospital gown, an intravenous (IV) catheter will be placed. An anesthesiologist will review your medical history. Your doctor will explain the procedure in more detail including any risks and answer any questions you have.

You will be brought into the procedure room and equipment to monitor your heart, breathing, and blood pressure will be attached. You will receive oxygen through your nose. You will be administered anesthesia through your IV, which will make you fall asleep. A scope will be used to move through the entire length of your colon. If polyps are identified, they will be removed, and other abnormalities will be biopsied. The procedure should be comfortable and painless.

IMPORTANT! Due to hospital policy, you must have someone 18 years or older pick you up and escort you home after your procedure.

The procedure will not begin until this arrangement has been made. If you are unable to confirm, your appointment will be cancelled.

We estimate you should be ready to be picked up approximately 1.5-2 hours from your scheduled procedure time.

If you don't have anyone to escort you home, please let us know and we can provide you with information on service agencies that will accompany you (at cost).



AFTER YOUR PROCEDURE: In the recovery room

You will wake up in the recovery room. Some people may feel bloated or have stomach cramps after a colonoscopy. This is normal and goes away by-passing gas. Once you are fully awake, your nurse will remove your IV. Your doctor will then discuss your procedure results. Your nurse will explain your discharge instructions before you go home.

AT HOME:

If you had a biopsy, you may notice a few drops of blood coming from your rectum. This is normal after a biopsy. Please refrain from drinking alcoholic beverages for 24 hours after your procedure. Avoid carbonated beverages, raw fruits, and salads at your post-procedure meal. You may resume your normal diet and activities the next day.

CALL YOUR DOCTORS OFFICE IF YOU HAVE:

- A temperature of 101° F (38.3° C) or higher
- Severe stomach pain or increasing size and firmness of your abdomen
- Heavy bleeding from your rectum that lasts more than 24 hours
- Weakness, faintness, or nausea/vomiting

