



## Preparing for Your Colonoscopy (GoLytely)

*This sheet contains instructions you must follow to prepare for your endoscopy procedure. Read them carefully. If you do not follow these instructions, you will have to reschedule or re-do your test. The goal of this preparation is to clean out your bowels. If your preparation is successful, you will pass yellowish to clear liquid when you have a bowel movement. The cleaner your bowels, the easier it is for your doctor to spot a problem. Please ask us if you have any questions about this instruction sheet.*

*We recommend you make a check mark by each instruction as you complete it.*

### Important:

Arrange for a responsible adult (18 years or older) to accompany you home. You will be groggy after your procedure. You must have a responsible adult with you even if you ride the bus, take a taxi or use medical transport. If this adult is unable to check in with you, please let them know we will need to contact them by phone prior to your procedure. Do not plan on returning to work that day.

Let us know if you have frequent constipation. You will need a special set of preparation instructions.

### Medications:

You may need to stop or change the way you take some medications before this procedure. We are here to help you understand how you need to change your medications. The number one reason we cancel procedures is because patients do not adjust their medications properly. Please keep reading for more instructions.

### If You Have Diabetes:

Remember you will need to fast (go without food) before this procedure. Schedule your appointment early if you can. Call us for medication instructions if you take any of the following:

- Short Acting Insulin
- Long Acting Insulin
- Metformin (Glucophage) or other oral diabetic medication

### Purchase the following:

- 1- GoLytely solution (4 liter) from your pharmacy. You will need a prescription for this. If you did not receive a prescription, please call us. See number below.
- 1- 10 ounce bottle of magnesium citrate (if needed)

Do not take magnesium citrate if you have kidney failure. Call the endoscopy lab for alternate instructions.

### **7 Days before Your Appointment (Date \_\_\_\_\_):**

Call us for medication instructions if you take any of the following:

- Apixaban (Eliquis)
- Clopidogrel (Plavix)
- Coumadin (Warfarin)
- Dabigatran (Pradaxa)
- Dalteparin (Fragmin)
- Edoxaban (Savaysa)
- Enoxaparin (Lovenox)
- Fondaparinux (Arixtra)
- Prasugrel (Effient)
- Rivaroxaban (Xarelto)
- Ticagrelor (Brilinta)

You do not need to stop or change the way you take aspirin for this procedure.

### **5 Days before Your Appointment (Date \_\_\_\_\_):**

- Stop taking iron supplements until after your procedure.
- If you are not having daily bowel movements, start taking Polyethylene Glycol (Miralax) in the morning and in the evening. Mix 1 teaspoon Polyethylene Glycol (Miralax) with ½ to 1 cup (4-8 ounces) of water.

### **3 Days before Your Appointment (Date \_\_\_\_\_):**

- Stop eating high fiber foods and whole grains. For example, uncooked fruits and vegetables, nuts and seeds, granola, popcorn, quinoa, whole grain bread or anything with bran.
- Call the Endoscopy Call Center if you have not talked to someone from our clinic since scheduling your appointment. See contact information.

### **The Day before Your Appointment (Date \_\_\_\_\_):**

#### **Step 1:**

- Start a clear liquid diet in the morning. No solid food until after your procedure. Drink only liquids you can see through.
- Clear liquids include apple juice, grape juice, water, soda, sports drinks, black coffee and plain tea (no cream or milk), broth, plain gelatin (no fruit), popsicles and Italian ices (no fruit or cream).
- Do not drink alcohol, milk, noodles or vegetables in soup, juice with pulp or anything red in color.

#### **Step 2:**

- Prepare your GoLyteLy solution and refrigerate. See instructions on the container.

#### **Step 3:**

- At 6:00 p.m., begin drinking the GoLytely solution. Drink 1 cup (8 ounces) every 10-15 minutes until the bottle is ½ empty. This will be 2 liters of the 4 liter solution.
- If you do not have a bowel movement by 10:00 p.m., drink the 10 ounce bottle of magnesium citrate. (Do not drink magnesium citrate if you have kidney failure)

### The Day of Your Appointment (Date \_\_\_\_\_):

- You may take any allowed pills and medications with a small sip of water. If your medicine says to take with food, do not take it until after your procedure.
- 5 hours before your appointment, finish drinking the GoLytely solution. Drink 1 cup (8 ounces) every 10-15 minutes until the solution is gone.
- 3 hours before your appointment, stop drinking anything at all. No food or drink until after your appointment. Not even gum, mints or candy.
- Complete any assigned paperwork and bring it with you to your appointment.
- Bring a list of all your medications with you to your appointment.

### Helpful Tips:

- Stay near a toilet! You will have diarrhea. This is normal and means the prep solution is working. Discomfort is common as you prepare for your procedure. Expect to feel better as your bowels clear out.
- Continue to drink the prep solution every 15 minutes as directed. You may have to drink while sitting on the toilet.
- If you have nausea or vomiting, give yourself a short break. Rinse your mouth or brush your teeth. Then continue drinking the prep solution. Chewing sugarless gum may help. You may take Dramamine if your nausea is bad. Follow dosing directions on the package.
- Use hemorrhoid cream or wipes to reduce anal irritation during the prep process. If you have a prescription hemorrhoid cream, you may use it. Do not use suppositories.
- Allow for extra travel time to your appointment. You may need to make bathroom stops along the way.
- You must complete your entire prep. A successful prep results in bowel movements that are liquid and yellowish to clear in color. If you can see the bottom of the toilet bowl after bowel movements, you are ready for your endoscopy procedure. Congratulations!

#### Contact Information:

Please call us with questions or concerns:

Endoscopy Call Center: (801) 213-9797, choose option 1 and then option 2

**If you need to cancel your appointment, let us know as soon as possible.**

For more information visit our website: <http://healthcare.utah.edu/gj>