



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.

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- small box of Simethicone chewable 125mg tabs
- 1- GoLytely solution (4 liters) from your pharmacy. You will need a prescription for this. If you did not receive a prescription, please call us. See the number below.

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)

No 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. Mix 1 Tablespoon Polyethylene Glycol (Miralax) with 1 cup 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.
- Have you spoken with a nurse and reviewed your health history? If not, please see below for 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., chew and swallow 2 chewable (125mg/each) simethicone tablets. Begin drinking the GoLyteLy solution. Drink 1 cup every 10-15 minutes until the bottle is ½ empty. This will be 2 liters of the 4-liter solution.

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 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 the 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 yellow 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 3

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

The endoscopy department reserves the right to require a new referral or possible dismissal from care for the following reasons:

- Multiple procedure or clinic cancellations
- Failure to attend procedural or clinic appointments
- Inability to cancel procedures without a 48 hour notice

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