

COVID-19 NOTICE

If you have a fever, unexplained cough or respiratory symptoms or have been exposed to someone with symptoms or confirmed COVID-19 infection in the last 21 days, CALL and reschedule your colonoscopy procedure. Don't do the prep and risk be turned away.

CLENPIQ COLONOSCOPY Split “PREP”

Modern colonoscopy is a diagnostic procedure to examine the colon, or large intestine. Over the past 40 years, it has become the gold standard in screening for colon polyps and prevention of colorectal cancer. With modern methods of sedation and newer thin flexible instruments, most exams are quick, painless, and very safe. For an accurate examination, however, it is critical that your colon is purged of all waste material using a restricted diet and laxative preparation, or "prep." Colonoscopy is an important test. Read this carefully and take the time to prepare correctly. *REMEMBER: An accurate colonoscopy requires an excellent prep. Cranberry flavored CLENPIQ is the most palatable AND effective prep that we have ever used which makes the exam more accurate.*

Most patients report that the worst part of the procedure is not the colonoscopy, but the necessary preparation the day before. Preparing for a colonoscopy is never pleasant, but fortunately, new low volume “preps” have been developed to make this process as simple as possible. It is important that you follow all instructions carefully so that the test need not be rescheduled. If you have any questions, please call our office - (412) 262-1000 option #2.

To prepare for your exam, you will need a prescription to purchase:

- One CLENPIQ Bowel Prep Kit. Store at room temperature

All bowel preps may cause some anal irritation. We also recommend that you purchase:

- A soft brand of toilet tissue.
- A box of baby wipes such as Huggies or Pampers Aloe wipes
- One small tube of diaper rash ointment or Zinc Oxide cream

This new CLENPIQ has been shown to be safe and effective. It is split into two halves:

1. The first half is taken the night before your exam.
2. The second half must be taken on the morning of your exam **STARTING 5 HOURS BEFORE YOUR APPOINTMENT and completed within 1 hour, AND YOU MUST HAVE NOTHING BY MOUTH THOSE LAST FOUR HOURS BEFORE YOUR EXAM ARRIVAL TIME – NO FOOD, LIQUIDS INCLUDING WATER, TOBACCO, CANDY, OR EVEN CHEWING GUM.**

THREE (3) DAYS BEFORE YOUR COLONOSCOPY

Make arrangements for a companion to accompany you to your appointment and drive you home. If possible, it is best that this person is someone with whom we can share the results of the examination. *We require that your driver remains in the PARKING LOT (due to Covid) the entire time that you are here, which averages around two hours - otherwise your appointment may have to be rescheduled.*

It is best to eat lightly for a few days before your exam. It makes the cleanout easier and more effective. *What goes in – has to come out.* Try to avoid overeating to compensate for the upcoming fast. Please avoid Metamucil, vitamins containing iron, raw vegetables, corn, sesame seeds and foods with skin or small seeds such as tomatoes, kiwi, quinoa, and cucumbers for a few days before your exam. Discontinue any fiber supplements (Metamucil, Citrucel, Fibercon, etc).

TWO (2) DAYS BEFORE YOUR COLONOSCOPY

Normal activity and diet, but don't overeat. IMPORTANT: Drink extra fluids this day - four 8-oz glasses. STAYING WELL HYDRATED IS A KEY PART OF THIS PREPARATION. Also, don't go into the prep constipated. If you feel that is the case, I would suggest that you take an over-the-counter laxative (such as 4 TBSP of Milk of Magnesia) and 4 glasses of water after dinner TWO nights before your exam to "prime the pump."

ONE (1) DAY BEFORE YOUR COLONOSCOPY ("Prep Day")

Follow these instructions the day prior to your procedure:

7 AM. You may have a light breakfast such as one egg and one piece of white toast, and then a *clear liquid diet* should be followed until your exam is completed. (See below.)

5 PM. DRINK CLENPIQ right from the bottle. Take one of the 5.4 oz bottles of CLENPIQ and drink all of it at once. *For a safe prep and complete exam, you MUST drink another 48 oz of clear fluid over the next 6 hours – SIX 8-oz glasses. You may drink more fluid if you wish. The more you can drink, the better the preparation will be.* This may be water, ice tea, lemonade, white grape juice, Crystal Light, Gatorade, etc. Do NOT drink any milk products. Avoid red, blue, or purple liquids as they may interfere with the exam.

DAY OF COLONOSCOPY ("Test Day")

Do NOT eat breakfast.

5 Hours before your appointment arrival time. DRINK CLENPIQ right from the bottle. Take the second of the 5.4 oz bottles of CLENPIQ and drink all of it at once. *For a safe prep and complete exam, you MUST drink at least 32 oz of clear fluid over the next hour – FOUR 8-oz glasses.*

To prevent aspiration of stomach contents into your lungs while under the anesthetic, **YOU MUST HAVE NOTHING BY MOUTH THOSE LAST FOUR HOURS BEFORE YOUR ARRIVAL TIME FOR YOUR EXAM – NO FOOD, LIQUIDS INCLUDING WATER, TOBACCO, CANDY, OR EVEN CHEWING GUM – OTHERWISE YOUR EXAM MAY BE CANCELLED.**

However, you may take any important prescription medications with a **small** sip of water, especially any medications for HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE. (Diabetic medications and blood thinners such as Coumadin, warfarin, Pradaxa, Xarelto, Eliquis, etc. require special instructions. Ask your doctor.) If you use any INHALERS FOR ASTHMA even infrequently, please bring them with you.

Plan to arrive ONE HOUR PRIOR to your procedure time. *Bring a driver who can remain in the PARKING LOT (due to Covid) the entire time you are here.* The average visit is about two hours. Arriving late or without a driver may require canceling and rescheduling your procedure. Wear comfortable clothing and shoes that are easily removed. Leave jewelry and other valuables at home. No firearms are permitted. Bring your insurance card and driver's license. If there is a copay or deductible, be prepared to pay it.

Note: CLEAR LIQUIDS are anything you can see through. This includes clear fat-free broths, bouillon, tea, coffee, Kool-Aid, Crystal Light, carbonated beverages, sodas, orange juice and other fruit juices without pulp, popsicles without pulp, Jell-O, hard candies, and Italian ices. **Not allowed:** Orange juice with pulp, fruit nectars, liquids you cannot see through, milk, cream. Avoid anything that is red, blue, or purple in color.