

## WESTCHESTER PUTNAM GASTROENTEROLOGY

845-278-5223, [www.putnamgastro.com](http://www.putnamgastro.com)

### COLONOSCOPY

**\*\*\*Please be advised that a minimum of 48 hours' notice must be given prior to the cancelation of any procedure in order to avoid a cancellation fee which is not covered by your insurance company. A time slot for you once you make your appointment and an anesthesia provider is scheduled to come to the office specially to administer your sedation. The notice we request allows appropriate and timely rescheduling of this staff when necessary. Our primary concern is efficient and cost effective care for all of our patients. Thank you for your cooperation in assigning us to meet this goal.**

Colonoscopy is a procedure used for examination of the colon or large intestine. The instrument used is a flexible tube with a lens and light guide system at the distal tip which permits video visualizing of the lining or inner wall of the colon. The hollow channel within the instrument allows for the easy passage of biopsy forceps, polyp removal devices, and other accessories that may be required in order to perform minor interventions during your examination. Medication is given into the vein by the anesthesia provider in order to make you comfortable. Any known drug allergies or prior bad reactions to medication should be reported before your procedure begins.

The procedure lasts approximately one hour (total time) and is chiefly dependent upon technical difficulty and what types of interventions need to be done (such as biopsies or polyp removals), additional time to recover from sedation may add an additional 20-30 minutes.

Many patients have no recollection of the procedure due to sedation. Verbal discharge instructions will be given prior to the administration of this sedation and written instructions which will be given upon leaving the office. **It is imperative that you not engage in any potential hazardous activity for 24 hours, including driving an automobile. YOU MUST HAVE SOMEONE TO DRIVE YOU HOME.** Your physician will discuss the findings of your colonoscopy, preferably in the company of your escort, when you are fully awake.

#### RISKS

NO procedure can guarantee 100% diagnostic accuracy and all involve some risk. Serious complications are rare and consist of tearing, injuring, or perforating (putting a hole) in the wall of colon/bleeding/infection/having a bad reaction to sedation.

More commonly, a sensation of bloating or cramping may be experienced initially after the procedure. This sensation should resolve quickly once any retained air is passed and you should feel well upon leaving the office. After discharge, **please contact immediately if you experience abdominal pain, elevated temperature, or more than a tablespoon of rectal bleeding. Report to the nearest emergency room for evaluation if you are unable to contact us for any reason.**

If you have any questions about your procedure, please call the office. Our staff will be happy to assist you.

YOUR COLONOSCOPY PREP INSTRUCTIONS BEGIN ON THE NEXT PAGE

Thank you for choosing Westchester Putnam Gastroenterology for your colonoscopy.

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**MIRALAX PREP FOR COLONOSCOPY**

**MEDICATIONS**

- **STOP** iron supplements one week prior to your procedure
- **STOP** taking **ONLY** the following medications \_\_\_\_ days before your procedure:  
**Blood-thinning medications:** Aggrenox, Coumadin, Persantine, Plavix, Gingko, Pradaxa
- For procedure scheduled before noon, take your morning medications after the examination is completed.
- For procedure scheduled for the afternoon, you may take your morning medications before 8AM.
- **DO NOT** take diabetic medication the morning of the procedure.
- Asthmatics should bring any inhalers with them to the office.
- Please **DO NOT** smoke the morning of the procedure.

**WHAT YOU WILL NEED TO PURCHASE**

Purchase (1) 238 grams bottle of Miralax (you may find this over the counter as a "14 day" bottle). 2 Dulcolax tablets and a 64 ounce (2 quarts) bottle of Gatorade (not Red or Purple) or other clear liquid of your choice (see attached list).

**DAY BEFORE THE PROCEDURE:**

- **DO NOT EAT ANY SOLID FOOD.** Drink only liquids from the list provided.
- Do not drink **ONLY** dietetic liquids, even if you are diabetic. It is helpful to drink plenty of clear liquids in order to help the laxative clean out your colon more efficiently.

**EVENING PRIOR TO THE PROCEDURE:** BETWEEN 4 P.M. AND 6 P.M. (The earlier in this range is preferred)

- **Take 2 Dulcolax tablets a half hour prior to the first dose of the prep with 8 ounces of clear liquid.**
- At about 4-6 pm (earlier within the range is preferred), mix half of the bottle of Miralax (7 capfuls) in 32 ounce Gatorade or other clear liquid. Dissolve well.
- Drink one 8 ounce glass of Miralax solution every 10-15 minutes until you have completed the solution.
- Continue to drink clear liquids from the list during the evening.
- Contact the physician if you have not had any bowel movements by 10 pm.

**THE MORNING OF THE PROCEDURE:** (FOUR HOURS BEFORE YOUR PROCEDURE TIME)

- Mix the remaining portion of Miralax powder in 32 ounces of Gatorade or other clear liquid.
- Drink one 8 ounce glass every 10-15 minutes until the solution is gone.
- **You must finish these three hours before your procedure time.**

- **Important Note:** The final outcome of the prep should produce stools that are liquid and either clear like water OR yellowish in color.

**YOU MUST FINISH DRINKING ANY KIND OF LIQUIDS (not even a sip of water is allowed!!) THREE (3) FULL HOURS PRIOR TO YOUR SCHEDULED PROCEDURE TIME. IF THIS IS NOT FOLLOWED, YOUR PROCEDURE MAY BE CANCELLED.**

## CLEAR LIQUID LIST

**NO RED OR PURPLE DRINKS, POPS, OR JELLO PLEASE !!!!**

CLEAR SODAS (ginger ale, 7UP, cola, seltzer, sprite)

CLEAR JUICES WITHOUT PULP (apple, white grape, white cranberry)

CLEAR SOFT DRINKS (clear sports drink such as Gatorade, kool-Aid, crystal light)

ICE POPS

JELLO

CLEAR BROTHS OR CLEAR BOULLIONS

ICED TEA

HOT TEA OR BLACK COFFEE (no milk or cream)

WATER

HARD CLEAR CANDY