

Issued Date: _____

Colonoscopy Preparation Instructions
2 Day Miralax + Dulcolax (Over-The-Counter)
Thank you for choosing St. Joseph Hospital!

Date:_____ Arrival Time:_____ Dr._____

****You may be contacted by the Endoscopy Department the day of your procedure to adjust your arrival time.***

Location: 172 Kinsley Street, Nashua, NH – Main Lobby, 2nd Floor Endoscopy Department

Pre-registration is required one week prior to your procedure. To pre-register, or if you have any questions about cost of coverage, please call **866-620-4781**.

If you have any questions regarding your prep or procedure or, if for any reason you need to reschedule your procedure, **please call 603-578-9363**.

Plan Ahead

- Call and check with your insurance company directly as soon as possible to determine if your procedure will be covered.
- If you had a colonoscopy in the past with an inadequate prep, call our office as soon as possible since your prep may change.
- You **MUST** call us to reschedule if: you develop a fever, cough, or any cold/flu like symptoms, have any outstanding cardiac or respiratory testing, or if you are currently taking antibiotics.
- Due to the anesthesia that will be administered during your procedure, it is required that you have a responsible adult or person of legal driving age to drive you home after your procedure. You cannot drive or walk. We fully expect you will be able to return to your normal activities the day after your procedure. We will unfortunately have to cancel your procedure if you fail to have a ride home available.



ST. JOSEPH HOSPITAL

Insurance Information

We strongly encourage you to check your benefit coverage by calling your insurance company directly before any procedure is performed to find out what your benefits are.

- Estimates for procedures can be provided by calling 866-620-4781.
- CPT codes for colonoscopies: Diagnostic (non-screening) = 45378. Low-Risk Screening (no personal or family history of colon cancer or colon polyps) = G0121. High-Risk Screening (confirmed personal or family history of colon cancer or colon polyps) = G0105.
- If a biopsy is required or if a polyp is removed during your screening procedure, your insurance benefit may change.
- The CPT code for an upper endoscopy (EGD) is 43235. If you are having an upper endoscopy (EGD) procedure in addition to your colonoscopy, please check with your insurance about coverage.
- Your benefit coverage might also vary based upon the location of your procedure. If your insurance has trouble finding St. Joseph Hospital Nashua in their directory, our Tax ID number is: 02-0222215.

Anesthesia Fees - Anesthesia for SJH is provided by Amoskeag Anesthesia: 1-888-446-0870.

- Certain insurances may have restrictions on the coverage of anesthesia. We encourage you to review your individual benefits.

Medications

- If you take any oral iron supplements (not infusions), multivitamin w/iron, fish oil, or vitamin E, STOP these medications 7 days prior to your procedure.
- **If you take any of the medications listed below for diabetes and/ or weight loss on a DAILY basis, hold the medication for 24 hours prior to your procedure. If you take any of the medications listed below for diabetes and/ or weight loss on a WEEKLY basis, hold 1 week prior to your procedure. If taking any of the below medications for diabetes, please contact your prescribing doctor to find out if an alternative/ replacement is needed.**
 - Dulaglutide (Trulicity), Exenatide extended release (Bydureon bcise), Exenatide (Byetta), Semaglutide (Ozempic, Rybelsus, Wegovy), Liraglutide (Victoza, Saxenda), Lixisenatide (Adlyxin), Phentermine (Adipex-P, Lomaira), Tirzepatide (Mounjaro and Zepbound), Naltrexone/bupropion (Contrave)
 - Empagliflozin (Jardiance) – Please hold 4 days prior to your procedure.

PLEASE CALL YOUR MANAGING OR PRESCRIBING PHYSICIAN IF:

- You take blood thinners such as Lovenox (Enoxaparin), Coumadin (Warfarin), Apixaban (Eliquis), Plavix (Clopidogrel), Aggrenox, Ticlid (Ticlopidine), Pradaxa (Dabigatran), Effient (Prasugrel), Brilinta (Ticagrelor) or Xarelto for instructions on stopping these. ***Please do not stop taking your blood thinner without talking to your managing/prescribing physician. If blood thinners are not stopped prior to arrival, your procedure may be cancelled.*** Aspirins are fine to continue.
- You are diabetic. Please check if medication adjustments are needed as you will be fasting.

GI cannot advise you on managing your medications. Please call your PCP or prescribing physician if you have questions on your prescribed medications.

Prep Items to Purchase

- **Miralax (aka Polyethylene Glycol 3350):** (2) 238g/8.3oz bottles and (1) 119g/4.1oz bottle of Miralax. Brand name or a generic equivalent is fine to use.
- **Dulcolax (stimulant laxative):** (4) 5mg Dulcolax tablets. Brand name or generic equivalent is fine to use.
- **Baby wipes/skin barriers (if desired)**
- **Gatorade/Sports Drink/Approved Clear Liquid:** (2) 64 oz bottles and (1) 32 oz bottle. Any flavor is fine EXCEPT FOR RED, ORANGE, or PURPLE in color.

Dietary Changes Prior to Colonoscopy

Leading up to the day of your procedure, you will need to modify your diet. Please follow a low fiber diet so that your colon will be properly cleaned out for the gastroenterologist to conduct a thorough examination.

Please begin a strict low fiber diet 5 days prior to your scheduled procedure if:

- You have trouble with constipation.
- You are diabetic.
- You are using any of the GLP-1 medications listed in the medication section above for diabetes or weight loss.

Please begin a strict low fiber diet 3 days prior to your procedure if:

- You are not diabetic.
You do not use any of the GLP-1 medications listed in the medication section above

ALLOWED	AVOID
Meats (beef, pork, poultry-without skin) and fish	Whole wheat or whole-grain breads, cereals or pastas
White bread without seeds or nuts	Brown or wild rice, oats, kasha, barley, quinoa
White rice, White pasta, crackers	Dried fruits and prune juice
Pancakes and waffles	Fruits with seeds, skins, or membranes (grapes, oranges, berries)
Cooked and peeled carrots, potatoes, seedless squash, veggie noodles without skins	Raw or undercooked vegetables and salads (corn, lettuce, brussels sprouts, spinach)
Fruits without skins, seeds, or membranes (melons, bananas, peeled apples, peeled canned fruits)	Beans, peas, and lentils
Milk and foods made from milk, milk substitutes	Seeds and nuts, and foods containing them (peanut butter and other nut butters)
Butter margarine, oils and salad dressings without seeds	Popcorn

2 Days Before Your Colonoscopy

- **In the morning** - NO SOLID FOODS, NO FULL LIQUIDS, NO DAIRY PRODUCTS, OR ALCOHOL. **Remain on a clear liquid diet only.**

ALLOWED	AVOID
Water	No milk, dairy, or dairy substitutes
Black coffee/ tea (no milk, creamer)	No RED, ORANGE, or PURPLE liquids
Clear juices that are not red, orange, or purple	No grape, fruit punch, or cranberry juice
Clear broths	No juice with pulp (ex. Orange Juice)
Popsicles	No smoothies
Jell-O	No nut milks
Coconut water	

- **Starting at 5:00PM** – Mix (1) 238gm/8.3 oz of Miralax powder, into a 64oz container of Gatorade/Powerade and drink slowly over a 2 ½ hour period. Bowel movements may be delayed. They may take time to start. Moving around helps.

Day Before Your Colonoscopy

It is very important to follow these timing instructions even if you may have to wake up in the middle of the night. If you complete the prep too early, fluid from your digestive system can build back up which will affect the quality of your procedure.

- **In the Morning** – Take all (4) 5mg Dulcolax tablets at once. Please continue to remain on a clear liquid diet only. No solid food/full liquids allowed.
- **Starting at 5:00PM** - Mix (1) 238gm/8.3 oz bottle of Miralax powder into a 64oz container of Gatorade/Powerade/clear liquid and drink slowly over a 2 ½ hour period. Bowel movements may be delayed. They may take time to start. Moving around helps.

Morning of Your Colonoscopy

Please continue to remain on a clear liquid diet only. No solid food/full liquids are allowed.

5 Hours PRIOR to ARRIVAL:

- Mix the 119g/4.1 oz bottle of Miralax powder into a 32 oz container of Gatorade/Powerade/clear liquid and drink slowly within 1 hour.
- May drink clear liquids only* (see list of clear liquids).
- May brush teeth.
- Upon arrival stool should be clear/yellow, any extra fluid will be suctioned during the procedure.

4 HOURS PRIOR TO ARRIVAL: ABSOLUTELY NOTHING BY MOUTH - NO gum; candy; mints; smoking, water. May use Chap Stick for dry lips.

The **ONLY MEDICATIONS** you may take this morning three (3) hours prior to your appointment are:

- Cardiac (heart)
- Seizure
- Blood Pressure
- Asthma medications and inhalers

Colonoscopy Day Expectations

We ask that you please bring these items with you: Completed endoscopy health history form (last page of the packet), the name and phone number of your ride, inhalers, CPAP/BiPAP (if easily transportable), glasses (do not wear contacts), if menstruating can use a tampon, reading material or other items in case of unforeseen delays, a **copy of your medication list with dosing and the last time taken (including over the counter meds).**

Please DO NOT BRING: Any valuables, including jewelry.

Please remove all body and facial piercings, nail polish, fake/acrylic nails prior to coming in.

If you wear dentures, please do not use denture adhesive on the day of your procedure, as they may need to be removed.

Before the start of your procedure, you will have the opportunity to discuss the procedure with your gastroenterologist and the anesthesiologist regarding sedation. They will each explain the nature of the procedure, and its risks, benefits, and alternatives. You will be asked to sign a consent form that you understand and agree to the care.

Please expect to be at the hospital for about 2 ½ to 3 hours. We make every effort to remain on time, but delays may occur.

You will need to rest for the remainder of the day. Do not operate any machines or motor vehicles.

You will receive a letter explaining your results approximately 2 to 3 weeks after your procedure.

ST. JOSEPH HOSPITAL ENDOSCOPY

YOUR NAME: _____

DRUG or FOOD ALLERGIES : ☐ No ☐ Yes please list _____

Personal Medical History: Please check all that apply and list any additional medical information below

- | | | | |
|--|--|---|---|
| ☐ High Blood Pressure | ☐ Sleep Apnea | ☐ Seizures | ☐ Liver Disease |
| ☐ High Cholesterol | CPAP__ BIPAP__ | ☐ Back Pain/injury | ☐ Kidney Disease |
| ☐ Anemia | ☐ Snores at night | ☐ Cancer, | ☐ Bleeding Problems |
| ☐ Heart Attack | ☐ COPD | type_____ | ☐ Falls in the past year |
| ☐ Heart Problem* | ☐ Asthma | ☐ Diabetes | ☐ Dentures Upper / lower/
Partial (please circle) |
| If yes describe:
_____ | ☐ GERD/Heartburn | ☐ Low Thyroid | |
| | ☐ Stroke ☐ TIA | ☐ High Thyroid | |

Surgery:

- | | | | | |
|--|---|--|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| ☐ Appendectomy | ☐ Gallbladder | ☐ Hysterectomy | ☐ C-Section | ☐ Hernia |
| ☐ Tonsillectomy | ☐ Heart | ☐ Abdominal Surgery | ☐ Eye Surgery | ☐ Other: |
| ☐ Pacemaker/Defibrillator | ☐ Joint Replacement, location_____ | | | ☐ Other: |

When did you **DRINK FLUIDS** last including, your Prep: _____

Do you have any **metal in the body** (not teeth)? ☐ No ☐ Yes If yes where? _____

Females - Last **Menstrual Period:** _____ Any chance you could be pregnant? ☐ No ☐ Yes

Community Health Question- (unrelated to your procedure!) – Have you completed a living will or health care proxy? This is a formal document naming someone to make decisions for you if you are unable to do so.

☐ Yes ☐ No If no would you like **more information?** ☐ Yes ☐ No

If you have a list of your medications, please just GIVE it to the nurse - **DO NOT COMPLETE BELOW**
INCLUDE over the counter medications and herbals PLEASE.

Medication	Dose	How Often	Last Dose	Medication	Dose	How Often	Last Dose

Name of person taking you home today? _____ **Phone Number** _____

What Items do you have with you TODAY for the procedure? If you have any of these walking in we want to ensure you have them walking out! Keep valuables at home please. Circle all that apply

Dentures: full partial upper lower Glasses Hearing aids Cane Walker
Personal Wheelchair Other: _____