

What, exactly, is a colonoscopy?

In a colonoscopy, your physician visually examines the inner lining of your large intestine, also called a colon. This is done with a thin, flexible tube that has a tiny camera on the end. The tube is gently inserted into the large intestine through the rectum and guided into the intestine to see its entire length.

Can colon cancer be prevented?

Yes, the removal of polyps from your large intestine can actually prevent colon cancer. ***Colon cancer is the most preventable form of cancer.***

People are often surprised to learn that colon cancer is also one of most common cancers in the United States. In the U.S., it is the second leading cause of cancer deaths in men and women.

Why should I have a colonoscopy rather than a Cologuard test?

Colonoscopy is the only test presently that is proven to detect and prevent colon cancer. There are alternatives for individuals who do not wish to undergo a colonoscopy however, depending on those results may ultimately lead to a colonoscopy anyway. Any colon cancer screening is better than none.

Will it hurt?

Most patients do not experience pain. Some patients may feel some discomfort such as cramping.

Will my colonoscopy be done in a private room?

Yes – absolutely.

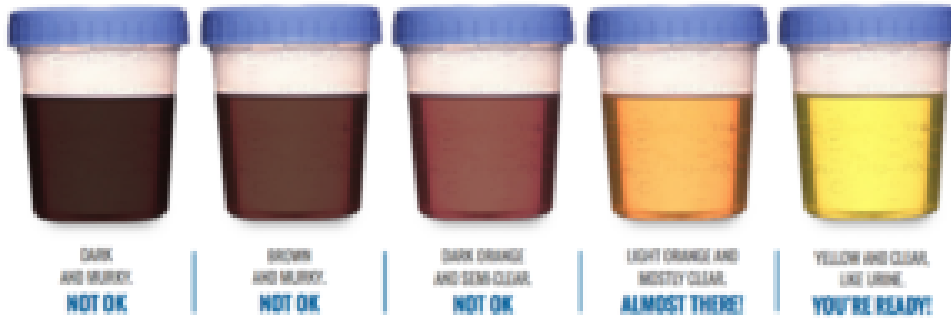
What happens if the doctor finds a polyp during my colonoscopy?

Your general surgeon will remove any polyps he or she finds during the examination of your colon at the same time as the examination.

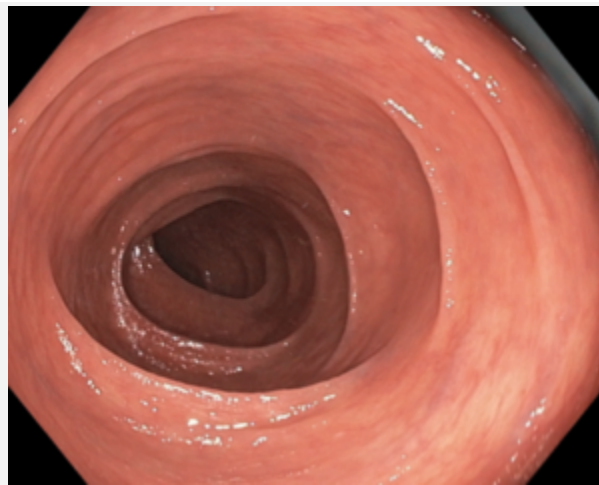
How do I prepare for my colonoscopy?

Generally, preparation involves a diet of clear liquids for about a day, and medications to cause diarrhea. Your gastroenterologist will give you specific guidelines about preparation. **What if my preparation for my colonoscopy isn't thorough?**

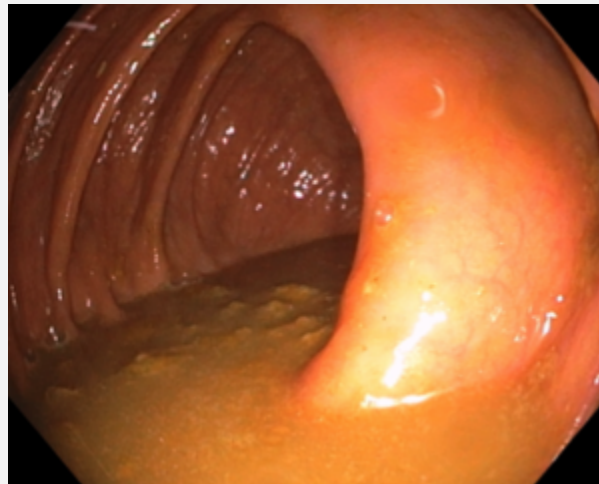
The goal of your prep is to have only clear/yellowish fluids in your large intestine so that your gastroenterologist can see the walls of your colon.



Fecal matter in your colon makes it harder to examine and therefore harder to find any polyps. If your preparation doesn't seem to be working, call us.



Good colonoscopy prep



Poor colonoscopy prep