

## Extended CoLyte Colonoscopy Preparation

**Ten (10) days before colonoscopy:** Some medications may be adjusted or discontinued for a short time (4-7 days) before the colonoscopy.

**Call the doctor's office if you are taking any of the following medications:**

- Iron tablets
- Blood-thinning (anticoagulant) herbs or medicines including:

Aggrenox	Heparin
Apixaban (Eliquis)	Plavix (Clopidogrel)
Cangrelor (Kengreal)	Pradaxa (Dabigatran)
Cilostazol (Pletal)	Prasugrel (Effient)
Coumadin (Warfarin)	Rivaroxaban (Xarelto)
Dalteparin (Fragmin)	Ticagrelor (Brilinta)
Edoxaban (Savaysa)	Ticlid (Ticlopidine)
Enoxaparin (Lovenox)	Vorapaxar
Fondaparinux (Arixtra)	
- Diabetes Medications
- Chemotherapy Medications

### Seven (7) days before colonoscopy:

**Stop taking:** Iron tablets, vitamins or herbal medications. Continue all other medications unless told otherwise.

**Stop eating:** nuts and seeds, including whole flax, sesame and chia seeds, berries and popcorn.

**Buy two (2) boxes of CoLyte** (each is four (4) litres) and three (3) Dulcolax (Bisacodyl) pills from your local pharmacy (NO SUBSTITUTION). A prescription is not needed.

### Three (3) days before colonoscopy:

**Make your time off work plan:** Consider taking the day before the colonoscopy off work to complete your bowel preparation. You should plan to be off work for the day of your colonoscopy. Most people can return to work the day after their colonoscopy.

### One (1) day before colonoscopy:

**Begin your extended bowel preparation: If you need clarification, please contact the physician doing the colonoscopy procedure for direction.**

## Extended Bowel Preparation

- **The bowel must be empty to have a colonoscopy.** Any remaining stool or fluids will make it difficult to see the walls on the inside of your bowel, making the test less accurate and, in some cases, impossible to finish. Your healthcare team **considers your bowel empty when you are only passing liquid.** The liquid may be clear, yellow or coloured with flecks of stool.
- **Bowel preparation solutions** from the pharmacy work best when taken as divided doses. Divided doses mean you drink the **first and second doses the day before the test** and the **third dose on the day of the test.** You must drink all of the liquid in each dose.
- It is also important to **stay hydrated** while taking the bowel preparation solution. To stay hydrated, you must **drink 3-4 litres of clear liquids** in addition to the bowel preparation solution. Typically, an adult will lose 3-4 litres of fluid during bowel preparation, and it is essential to replace this fluid.

### Beginning in the morning on the day before your colonoscopy:

- **Do not eat** any solid foods.
- **Begin drinking** 3-4 litres of clear liquids – you may drink the following liquids up until 2 hours before the colonoscopy:
  - Sports drinks, e.g. Electrolyte Gastro, Gatorade or Powerade
  - Light-colored soft drinks, e.g. Sprite, Ginger Ale, 7-UP
  - Water
  - Kool-Aid, iced tea, lemonade
  - Black or herbal tea, coffee without milk products or substitutes
  - Pulp-free fruit juices, e.g. apple, white grape, and white cranberry
  - Clear soups, e.g. broth/bouillon
  - Pulp-free coconut water
  - Popsicles
  - Jell-O
  - **no red, blue or purple coloured liquids; no dairy drinks; no alcohol.**
- **Prepare and refrigerate** your bowel preparation solution according to the directions on the box. Chilling the dose improves the taste when it comes time to drink. Drinking the dose with a straw can help the mixture bypass the taste buds.

- **If you have diabetes:** try to maintain your regular caloric intake in liquid form. Test your blood sugar before meals, at bedtime and throughout the day as needed.

## What to expect after your first dose of the bowel preparation solution?

- Remain close to a toilet. You will have frequent diarrhea-type bowel movements.
- The solution usually starts working within 1-3 hours but may take longer. It may take up to 6-8 hours or more for some people. Your next dose will take less time to work. Keep this in mind if you are travelling the day before your procedure.
- Cramping can occur and is considered normal.

## Reminder:

- You will need to stay at the clinic for 30 minutes to 1 hour following the colonoscopy test.
- If you received sedation medication for the colonoscopy test, you might be **considered impaired for up to 24 hours after the test.**
  - You **should not sign any legal documents.**
  - You **will not be able to drive** yourself home. You will need a trusted person to meet you at the endoscopy unit to pick you up from the hospital. If you do not have a driver your test may be canceled. A taxi is not acceptable if traveling alone.
  - You **should not drink alcohol** or **take sleeping pills** or **anti-anxiety medications.**
  - You **should not be responsible for another person's care**, e.g. a baby, young child, or person in poor health.
- You can begin drinking full fluids and advance to a regular diet as tolerated.
- If you take blood-thinning medication, discuss when to restart these medications with the doctor. Resume all other medications as usual unless told otherwise.

## Extended Bowel Preparation Instructions

### Please note:

- You should start a clear fluid diet **beginning in the morning, the day before** your procedure. You should not eat or drink after you finish your prep. You can not eat or drink anything **within two hours** of the colonoscopy.
- Take your regular medications with a sip of water, **except** for blood thinners and diabetic medications (you should have specific instructions for these medications).
- You can take Tylenol/migraine medication **until three hours** before your colonoscopy.

### At 2:00 PM the day before the colonoscopy:

- **Take three (3) bisacodyl (Dulcolax) tablets with water; do not** chew or crush the tablets. The first bowel movement usually occurs in 1-6 hours after swallowing the tablets.
- **Prepare your first container of Co-Lyte** by adding 4 litres of water according to the instructions on the jug. Do this early in the morning, and be sure to refrigerate the jars as chilling improves the taste
- Gravol 25-50 mg may be taken by mouth if needed for nausea when completing the bowel preparation.

### At 4:00 PM the day before the colonoscopy:

- **Drink half (1/2 or 2 litres) the solution from the first jug of the CoLyte** container whether or not you have had a bowel movement. Drink at least 250 ml every 15 minutes. Rapid drinking of each glass is preferred. Be sure to drink all the solution. Be sure to drink all the solution.
- A watery bowel movement should begin in approximately one (1) hour.

### At 9:00 PM the day before the colonoscopy:

- **Drink the remaining solution from the first jug (2 Litres) of CoLyte** preparation. Drink 250 ml every 15 minutes. Rapid drinking is preferred. Be sure to drink all the solution.
- **Prepare the second (2nd) jug of CoLyte** by adding four (4) litres of water according to the instructions. Do this before next step and be sure to refrigerate the jars as chilling improves the taste.

### Four to six (4- 6) hours before the colonoscopy:

- **Drink half (1/2 or 2 Litres) the solution from second (2nd) jug of the CoLyte** container. Drink at least 250 ml every 15 minutes. Rapid drinking of each glass is preferred. Be sure to drink all the solution

### Two (2) hours before the colonoscopy procedure:

- No eating or drinking.

## Patient Appointment and Hospital Information

**Hospital Arrival:** You must arrive and register in the **Admitting Department 60-90 minutes before** your scheduled colonoscopy. If your appointment is at **8:00 A.M.** you must arrive and register in the **Admitting Department at 7:00 A.M.** The colonoscopy will take 20-30 minutes to perform, and you need to stay 30 minutes to 1 hour after it is over. Plan to be at the hospital for **1.5 to 3 hours** from start to finish.

### **Hospital Checklist:**

- Bring a list of current medications.
- Bring your ostomy supplies if you have an ostomy.
- Bring your most recent glucose reading if you have diabetes.
- Bring a translator if you do not understand or speak English.
- Bring your PEI Health Card or proof of substitute medical insurance plan. If you do not have these, bring another form of personal ID.
- **Do not** wear any jewelry, e.g. rings, watches, earrings, bracelets, or necklaces.
- **Do not** bring any valuables.