

BOWEL PREPARATION FOR COLONOSCOPY

Morning appointment | AM



Name: _____

Procedure Date: _____

Time: _____

COLONOSCOPY PREPARATION PACK

(combination preparation)

This may be purchased from your Gastroenterologist's rooms or over the counter from your chemist.

1 x Glycoprep Orange (70g sachet)

2 x Picosalax (16.1g sachets)

This information sheet explains the necessary steps that need to be taken prior to your colonoscopy. In order for the procedure to be successful, it is very important that your bowel is clear. The procedure may need to be postponed and the preparation process repeated if your bowel preparation is inadequate.

MEDICATION ADVICE

- Continue with your other regular medications, but please check with your doctor if you are taking:
 - Blood thinning medications (eg. Aspirin, Clopidogrel, Warfarin, Clexane, Dabigatran, Rivaroxaban) or
 - Diabetic medications and Insulin or
 - Injectable weight loss medications (eg. Ozempic, Wegovy, Mounjaro)

Please note that oral contraceptives may not be as effective after bowel preparation and extra precautions for the rest of the month is recommended.

MEDICATION INSTRUCTIONS

START 3 DAYS BEFORE YOUR COLONOSCOPY

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- You should eat a **low fibre diet**.
- Foods **you should NOT eat** include: high fibre breakfast cereals, whole meal bread, nuts, seeds, legumes, most fruits, most vegetables, and thick and fatty condiments.
- **Foods you can eat include:**
 - Starches: white bread, white pasta, white rice, white noodles, rice bubbles
 - Proteins: grilled or poached chicken, fish (and shellfish), eggs, tofu
 - Vegetables: (all must be skinless and cooked until soft): white potatoes, pumpkin and carrots
 - Fruits: fresh (not dried), skinless and seedless apples, pears, bananas and rock melon
 - Dairy: plain yoghurt, milk and cheese
 - Condiments: salt, soy sauce, vinegar, honey
- **Good hydration** is essential. You should continue to drink plenty of fluids.

1 DAY BEFORE YOUR COLONOSCOPY

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Continue the low fibre diet until 1pm

You can have a light low fibre breakfast (eg. 1-2 slices of white toast, yoghurt, scrambled eggs, black tea or coffee) and lunch (eg. sliced chicken breast on regular white sandwich bread).

After 1pm and until fasting time:

- **NO SOLID FOODS** and **ONLY APPROVED CLEAR FLUIDS**.
- **Approved clear fluids** include water, clear apple juice, lemon or lime cordial, black tea/coffee, sports drinks (not red or purple), clear broth, jelly (not red or purple), ice blocks and barley sugar.
- You should have **at least 1-2 glasses of approved fluids every hour** to maintain hydration during the bowel preparation (until bedtime).

At 6pm: Bowel Preparation dose

- Add **1 sachet of Picosalax** to a glass of water. Stir until the fizzing stops.
- Drink the entire mixture slowly.
- This should be **followed by at least 1-2 glasses of water** or approved clear fluids per hour.

At 8pm: Bowel Preparation dose

- Add **1 sachet of Glycoprep-Orange** to 1 litre of cold water and stir until dissolved (can be made up the night before and refrigerated as desired).
- Try to drink one glass of the preparation every 15 minutes until it is finished.
- If you feel nauseated or bloated, slow down your intake, but try to drink all of the preparation.
- This should be **followed by at least 1-2 glasses of water** or approved clear fluids per hour until bedtime.

POST-PROCEDURE INFORMATION

Your procedure involves being administered sedative drugs. These may cause ongoing drowsiness and/or clumsiness. The following advice is extremely important.

1. A responsible person must collect you from the hospital.
2. For the next 24 hours you must not:
 - Drive any vehicle or operate machinery.
 - Make any important decisions (particularly ones requiring signing of legal documents).
 - Drink alcohol.
3. You must have a responsible adult stay with you overnight.
 - If this cannot be organised, then please inform the staff so that alternative arrangements (such as hospital admission) can be made.
4. Your doctor will advise as to a follow-up plan following the procedure.
 - In many cases, we ask that you call our rooms on 08 8267 1766 to arrange a post-procedure appointment to discuss the results. This may be either in person or via a telephone call.

THE DAY OF YOUR COLONOSCOPY

Continue **ONLY** approved clear fluids

At 5am: FINAL dose

- Add **1 sachet of Picosalax** to a glass of water. Stir until the fizzing stops.
- Drink the entire mixture slowly.
- This should be **followed by at least 1-2 glasses of water** or approved clear fluids per hour.

Cease all fluids from 2 hours prior to scheduled arrival time

- Morning medications may be taken with a sip of water only.

Cease all fluids at:

Arrival time:

- Please ensure that you have someone to accompany you to and from your procedure.
- Expect to be in hospital for at least 3-4 hours.
- Due to the effects of sedation, you will not be able to drive home from your procedure and will need a responsible adult to be with you overnight.

RESPONSE TO BOWEL PREPARATION

- People respond differently to bowel preparation.
- You will likely experience multiple loose bowel movements within several hours of the first dose of bowel preparation.
- It is recommended that you stay close to a toilet during your bowel preparation.
- If your anal area becomes sore, a barrier cream may be helpful (eg. Vaseline).