

Preoperative Bowel Prep

Adequate bowel preparation is an essential part of your upcoming colon surgery and will help you avoid possible complications. Please carefully observe the following instructions.

1. Please obtain the Golytely® bowel preparation solution and oral antibiotics from any pharmacy with the prescription attached.
2. Start taking all 4 liters of the solution by mouth in the morning of the day prior to surgery. It will often take three to four hours to drink the entire bottle. Take both oral antibiotics as instructed on the prescription in 3 doses as instructed.
 - You may drink the solution over ice.
 - You may have clear liquids with the bowel preparation but no thick liquids or solids. You can drink clear liquids with the antibiotics.
 - If you develop nausea and vomiting while taking the bowel preparation or with the antibiotics, call your surgeon for instructions.
3. After the bowel preparation solution has been taken significant diarrhea will soon be experienced and at time will be associated with urgency. You should be certain you are located at a convenient and appropriate location while the bowel preparation is being completed. The diarrhea will often last up to three to four hours.
 - It is not uncommon to have some cramping during the bowel preparation.
 - After the four liters has been consumed and the diarrhea has stopped the stool should be clear yellow or light brown and free of solid matter. If it is not, call your surgeon.
 - If there is persistent blood in the stool, please call your surgeon.
4. After the bowel preparation is completed you may resume normal activities and may continue to drink clear liquids only. Do not eat or drink anything after midnight the day prior to surgery.
5. Arrive at the hospital at the appropriate time for your scheduled surgery.
6. IV antibiotics will be given to you upon your arrival in the surgical suite.