

830 Harrison Avenue, Boston MA 2nd Floor of the Moakley Pavilion

Preparation Instructions for Afternoon Colonoscopy

Today

- Plan time off of work for the day of your colonoscopy.
- You **MUST** have an escort to come into the hospital and take you home after the colonoscopy so start making these arrangements.

7 Days Before Your Appointment

- Fill prescription for the laxative. If you don't have it call patient navigator (number below)
- Stop** taking Iron pills. Multi-vitamins **can** be continued.
- If you are taking Coumadin/Warfarin or any other type of blood thinner** please call your primary care doctor/Coumadin Clinic today for instructions on stopping the medication before your procedure.



2 Days Before Your Appointment

Please ignore all other bowel preparation instructions from any other sources including pharmacist, medicine package inserts, friends/relative and the internet.)

- Drink at least 8 glasses of water today.
- STOP eating high fiber foods such as vegetables and beans** until after your colonoscopy. You **can** eat all other types of foods today.

The Day Before Your Appointment

You may have a **light breakfast** in the morning, then **FOLLOW A STRICT CLEAR LIQUID DIET** for the rest of the day. Examples of clear liquids are: water, apple juice, broth(NOT SOUP WITH THINGS IN IT) Jell-O, tea/coffee **without** milk/cream, sodas, sports drinks, and popsicles, but **nothing red colored**.

- 6 PM** Place mixed laxative solution inside of the fridge to cool (no ice cubes)



The Day of Your Appointment

- 6 hours before your appointment time**, start to drink the entire laxative solution – 1 cup every 10-15 minutes. You must finish it at least **2 hours before** the colonoscopy (finishing it 3 to 5 hours before is best).
- If you have diabetes:** Take half the dose of your insulin on the day of procedure and skip diabetes pill(s) unless directed otherwise. You should check your blood sugar level in the morning.
- Take all of your other regular medications** at least 2 hours prior to your test.
- You may have clear liquids up until **2 hours before the colonoscopy**, then **stop all oral intake. NO SOLIDS until after the colonoscopy is done.**

If you can not keep this appointment please call 617-414-2600.

If you have any questions please contact the Patient Navigator 617-414-2494/617-414-2640