

## Standard CoLyte Colonoscopy and Gastroscopy Preparation

### Seven (7) days before colonoscopy and gastroscopy:

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

**Stop taking:** iron tablets and vitamins. Continue all other medications unless told otherwise.

**Stop eating:** nuts and seeds, e.g. flax, sesame and chia seeds, berries and popcorn.

**Buy one (1) container of Co-Lyte (4 Litres) and three (3) Dulcolax (Bisacodyl) pills (NO SUBSTITUTION)** from the pharmacy. A prescription is not needed.

### Three (3) days before colonoscopy and gastroscopy:

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

### One (1) day before colonoscopy and gastroscopy:

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

## Standard Bowel Preparation

- The bowel must be **empty** to have a colonoscopy. 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.
- **Stay hydrated** while taking the bowel preparation solution. You should **drink 3-4 litres of clear liquids** in addition to the bowel preparation solution.

### **Beginning in the morning on the day before your colonoscopy and gastroscopy:**

- **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 and drinking the dose through a straw helps 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. You should have received a diabetes medication adjustment handout with this information package.

## 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. Cramping can occur and is considered normal.
- 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.

## Reminder:

- You will need to stay at the hospital for 30 minutes to 1 hour following the colonoscopy and gastroscopy test.
- If you received sedation medication for the colonoscopy and gastroscopy 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.

## Standard Bowel Preparation and Gastroscopy 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 and gastroscopy.
- 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 and gastroscopy.

### **At 2:00 PM the day before the colonoscopy and gastroscopy:**

- **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.
- Gravol 25-50 mg may be taken by mouth if needed for nausea when completing the bowel preparation.

### **At 7:00 PM the day before the colonoscopy and gastroscopy:**

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

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

- **Drink the remaining two litres (2L) of CoLyte.** Be sure to drink all the solution.
- Continue to drink **clear fluids until 2 hours before the procedure.** Rapid drinking of each glass is preferred.

### **Two (2) hours before colonoscopy and gastroscopy procedure:**

- You must be fasting (**NO LIQUIDS**) for 2 hours before the test.

## Patient Appointment and Hospital Information

**Hospital Arrival:** You must arrive and register in the **Admitting Department 60-90 minutes before** your scheduled colonoscopy and gastroscopy. 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 and gastroscopy will take 30-45 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.