

# **Pre-Procedure Instruction for Colonoscopy**

## **Halflytely**

**Only use this preparation if directed to by your specialist.**

**The preparation for your colonoscopy is among the most critical and challenging parts of your colonoscopy. The bowel MUST be adequately cleansed for proper visualization. Please follow the instructions closely.**

**Seven (7) days before your procedure:**

- 1. If you take COUMADIN or PLAVIX, you must call your GI doctor's office at least seven days before your appointment so we can discuss whether these medications can be stopped safely before the procedure. We will need to know about whether you have atrial fibrillation or have received any cardiac stents or artificial heart valves.**
- 2. If you have diabetes and take medication to control your blood sugar, contact your primary care physician or diabetes specialist for instructions about how to take your diabetic medication while preparing for this procedure.**
- 3. Stop taking iron or multivitamins if they contain iron.**
- 4. Start a low roughage diet and do not eat corn, raw vegetables, nuts, popcorn, seeds, fresh fruit, salad, or fiber supplements (Metamucil). You may restart your regular diet again after the procedure.**

**Two (2) days before your procedure:**

- 1. Stop arthritis medications such as Motrin, Ibuprofen, Advil and naprosyn for two days before the procedure, as these medications may increase your risk of bleeding. Tylenol is okay to take.**
- 2. Purchase HalfLyte kit from your pharmacy. Your prescription most likely has already been electronically sent to your pharmacy of record. If we did not have this information, or were unable to electronically prescribe your prescription, it will be included with this packet of paperwork.**
- 3. The kit contains; container with Halflytely powder in it, five (5) flavor packets, instructions for mixing the solution, and two (2) Dulcolax (Bisacodyl) tablets.**
- 4. If you are usually constipated or sometimes use a laxative, take two tablespoons of Milk of Magnesia at 8:00 pm.**

**The Day before the Procedure:**

- 1. Prepare HalfLyte according to label instructions and refrigerate (not required). Most patients find the lemon-lime flavor to be the best, and most patients also find the solution easier to drink when chilled.**
- 2. You may have a 'light breakfast'. Suggestions include white toast, eggs, tea, coffee.**
- 3. Begin a clear LIQUID diet at lunch and continue this diet until three hours before your procedure. A clear liquid diet includes water, tea, black coffee, clear broth, apple juice, white grape juice, Gatorade, soda, and Jell-O (not red). No dairy, orange juice, or anything red in color. Do not drink sugar-free drinks. All patients, including those with diabetes, should be sure to get enough sugar during this time.**

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- 4. Between 4:00 pm and 6:00 pm, take two Dulcolax (Bisacodyl) tablets by mouth with water.**
- 5. After taking the pills, wait three hours before beginning to drink the HalfLytely solution. Drink an 8 oz. glassful every 15 minutes until the jug is consumed.**

**Hints:**

- Drink through a straw; rinse mouth with clear liquid between glasses, use sugar-free candy or ice pops (not red) between glasses.**
- If you have severe discomfort or distention (bloating), stop drinking the solution for a while or wait longer between each glass until the discomfort goes away.**
- If you feel nauseous, a glass of water or ginger ale may help settle your stomach. Wait a while and continue with the prep.**
- Use moist baby wipes instead of toilet paper.**

**On the day of the Procedure:**

- 1. You *should take your usual medications* (except diabetic medicine) with a few sips of water. It is particularly important that you take your usual blood pressure, heart and lung medications.**
- 2. Otherwise, stop all liquids three hours before your procedure, and do not eat or drink anything further until after your procedure.**
- 3. If you have diabetes and routinely do a finger stick, do so prior to coming to the unit.**
- 4. Wear loose-fitting comfortable clothes; leave all jewelry at home.**

**After the Procedure:**

- 1. You will be monitored in the Endoscopy recovery area for approximately 30 minutes.**
- 2. Please carefully review your discharge paperwork for follow up instructions.**
- 3. You may have some abdominal bloating and gas after the procedure. It should resolve within a few hours.**
- 4. You may eat your usual diet after the procedure, unless advised otherwise.**
- 5. If you have any rectal bleeding or pain following the procedure, contact us immediately.**
- 6. You must have a responsible adult accompany you home.**

**Please be sure to verify the location of your procedure with your GI doctor's office.**