Bowel Prep Instructions for Colonoscopy Procedures – DDG Waxahachie

# Welcome! You've taken an important step toward better health, and we're here to support you every step of the way!

Since you're scheduled for a colonoscopy, we're excited to guide you through the process of preparing for a healthier colon. Below, you'll find the essential bowel prep instructions, which involve a prescription for GoLYTELY—ready for pick-up at your preferred pharmacy (or maybe you've already got it in hand)! It's crucial that you follow these instructions carefully, as a thorough colon cleanse is key to the success of your procedure. A clean colon allows your provider to clearly identify any potential health issues, including disease or precancerous tumors. Let's get you set for a smooth and successful colonoscopy!

If you have any questions or need assistance, please don't hesitate to call our office at **469-800-9950** or **send us a message through the MyBSWHealth portal**. We're happy to assist you and answer any questions you may have! Thank you for trusting us with your healthcare!

#### **GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS:**

Follow these instructions carefully to ensure a successful colonoscopy. A clean colon is essential for detecting any polyps or abnormalities. If your colon is not properly cleaned, your procedure may need to be repeated, leading to additional costs and risks.

- Use this instruction sheet instead of the directions on the medication packaging.
- Tell us if you:
  - Have chronic constipation (fewer than 4 bowel movements per week).
  - Take narcotic/opioid pain relievers.
  - Have had inadequate bowel prep before.
  - You may need a stronger prep.

#### Why Proper Preparation Matters—

A colonoscopy allows your doctor to examine your colon using a small camera. A clean colon is **essential** for detecting and removing precancerous polyps and early cancer.

#### If your colon is not properly cleaned:

- Polyps (precancer growths) and even early cancer may be missed.
- Your procedure may take longer, increasing risks.
- There's a higher chance of **complications** like a tear (perforation).
- You may have to repeat the procedure—and still be charged by your insurance.

# AVOID A REPEAT PROCEDURE FOLLOWING STEPS CAREFULLY!!



Bowel Prep Instructions for Colonoscopy Procedures - DDG Waxahachie

#### 7 DAYS BEFORE YOUR PROCEDURE:

- Pick up your prescription for GoLYTELY® bowel prep (jug) from your preferred pharmacy.
- Buy these over-the-counter items:
  - o 4 Dulcolax (Bisacodyl) 5 mg tablets
  - 4 Gas-X (Simethicone) 80 or 125 mg tablets
- Arrange a driver: You <u>MUST</u> have someone drive you to and from your procedure. You cannot drive yourself due to sedation.
- If you take blood thinners or diabetes medication, ask your prescribing doctor if you need to stop or adjust them.
- Avoid nuts, seeds, popcorn, and corn.

#### **3 DAYS BEFORE YOUR PROCEDURE:**

- Stop eating high-fiber foods (like fruits, vegetables, grains, beans).
- Stop taking fiber supplements (Metamucil, Citrucel, Benefiber).
- Start a low-residue diet (see diet options below).

APPROVED	NOT APPROVED
DRINKS: soft drinks, iced tea, coffee  FOODS: White bread, eggs, milk, yogurt, cheeses (including cream cheese and sour cream), butter,	ALL FOODS WITH SEEDS AND NUTS!
	FRUITS: berries, pears, apples, oranges, avocados, prunes and raisins, dried figs, or jams!
	<u>VEGETABLES</u> : sweet potatoes, spinach, kale, artichokes, cabbage, broccoli, cauliflower, green peas, carrots, squash.
fried potatoes (without skin), pasta (made with white flour), white rice, grilled/fried fish, strained soups/broths.	GRAINS: whole-grain breads, multigrain cereal, oats and oatmeal, brown rice, barley, bulgur wheat, millet, quinoa, bran muffins, popcorn, rye wafer crackers, sesame.
DESSERTS: cakes and pastries, Jell-o, popsicles	BEANS: navy beans, kidney beans, and pinto beans. Soybeans, split peas, lentils, chickpeas, fava.
	Fiber bars.



Bowel Prep Instructions for Colonoscopy Procedures – DDG Waxahachie

#### **2 DAYS BEFORE YOUR PROCEDURE:**

**No solid food today—clear liquids only.** Eating solid food will result in cancellation of your procedure. Drink at least 8 ounces of clear liquids every 1-2 hours after waking up to stay hydrated.

APPROVED	NOT APPROVED
Apple juice, yellow grape juice, lemonade (without pulp), Gatorade (or any sports drink), water (still or sparkiling), tea (no milk), coffee (without creamer), clear soft drinks (sprite, ginger ale, 7up), clear beef or chicken broth (must be strained), popsicles, Jell-o, and hard candy.	Dairy products (milk, almond milk, soy milk, cheese, cream, coffee creamer, yogurt or butter), anything RED or PURPLE IN COLOR, alcohol (of any kind), drinks with pulp (orange juice)

- 1. **Prepare the GoLYTELY® solution** Using your GoLYTELY container—fill to the line with water, shake well, and refrigerate (your prep will taste better cold!). You may add sugar-free Crystal Light lemonade. (Do not add any other liquids or ice!)
- 2. 2:00 PM: Take four Dulcolax (Bisacodyl) 5 mg tablets.
- 3. **5:00 PM:** Start drinking GoLYTELY®:
  - Drink one 8-ounce glass every 10-15 minutes over two hours until half the solution (64 ounces) is finished.
  - Shake the container before consuming each glass.
  - Do not sip; drink quickly for best results.
  - o After finishing, drink two additional 16-ounce glasses of water.
- 4. Continue drinking clear liquids throughout the evening to avoid dehydration.

### 1 DAY BEFORE YOUR PROCEDURE:

- 8:00 AM: Take 2 Gas-X pills and start the second dose of GoLYTELY®:
  - o Drink 8 ounces every 10-15 minutes for 2 hours until finished.
  - Then, drink two 16-ounce glasses of water.
- 2. Prepare the next solution:
  - Fill the GoLYTELY® container with water, shake well, and refrigerate.
- 3. Take **2 more Gas-X pills** after finishing the solution.
- 4. **5:00 PM:** Start drinking GoLYTELY®:
  - Drink one 8-ounce glass every 10-15 minutes over two hours until half the solution is finished.
  - Shake the container before each glass.



Bowel Prep Instructions for Colonoscopy Procedures – DDG Waxahachie

- Do not sip; drink quickly for best results.
- After finishing, drink two additional 16-ounce glasses of water.
- 5. Continue drinking clear liquids throughout the evening to avoid dehydration.

### **MORNING OF YOUR PROCEDURE:**

- 1. Second Dose of GoLYTELY® (6 hours before procedure time):
  - Take two Gas-X tablets.
  - o Drink the remaining half of the GoLYTELY® solution:
    - One 8-ounce glass every 10-15 minutes for two hours until finished.
    - Shake the container before each glass.

#### 2. Medication Guidelines:

- You may take heart, blood pressure, or other timed medications with a small sip of water four hours before your appointment (unless told otherwise).
- o Do not eat, drink, or chew anything after this time, including medications.

\*Failure to follow these instructions may result in a delayed or canceled procedure.

### **COLON CLEANSING TIPS:**

- Stay near a toilet. Frequent bowel movements are expected.
- Use a straw to drink the prep solution if it helps with taste.
- If you feel nauseous or vomit:
  - Take a 30-minute break.
  - Rinse your mouth or brush your teeth.
  - Walk around, then resume drinking the solution.
  - Drink as much as you can, even if you vomit some of it.
- Bowel cramps may occur until the colon is fully flushed (can take 2-4 hours or longer).
- To prevent skin irritations or hemorrhoid flare-ups:
  - Use baby wipes, Vaseline, hydrocortisone cream, or TUCKS® pads.
  - Avoid products containing alcohol.
  - Do not use suppositories.



Bowel Prep Instructions for Colonoscopy Procedures – DDG Waxahachie

#### **CANCELLATION POLICY:**

Colonoscopies require careful scheduling between staff, doctors, and the hospital. If you need to cancel or reschedule, **call at least <u>10 days before</u>** your procedure at **469-800-9950**. Failure to provide notice may result in a fee, which is **not covered by insurance** and must be paid before rescheduling.

#### **MEDICATION TIMELINE:**

Review the chart listed below for any medications you are currently taking and be aware of the amount of time prior to your procedure REQUIRED to hold (stop taking) your medication.

\*All blood thinner medication REQUIRE CLEARANCE TO HOLD from the <u>prescribing provider</u> (cardiologist, primary care provider, etc.) to stop the medication before the procedure. \*\*

STOP 7 DAYS PRIOR: All weight loss medication: examples include Phentermine (Adipex) and

**Qsymia** (Phentermine / Topiramate), **Dulaglutide** (Trulicity), **Exenatide** (Bydureon, Byetta), **Liraglutide** (Saxenda, Victoza), **Lixisenatide** (Adlyxin), **Semaglutide** (Ozempic, Wegovy), **Tirzepatide** (Mounjaro).

Some of those medications are used to treat diabetes. You will need to hold them and inform your diabetes doctor to determine if an alternative

is needed.

STOP 5 DAYS PRIOR: The following blood thinners: Warfarin (Coumadin), Plavix (Clopidogrel),

Effient (Prasugrel), Brilinta (Ticagrelor), Pletal (Cilostazol), Aggrenox

(Aspirin/Dipyridamole).

STOP 4 DAYS PRIOR: Ertugliflozin (Steglatro, Segluromet, Stegluromet, Steglujan, etc.)

STOP 3 DAYS PRIOR: Oral Iron supplement and diabetic medications: Invokana (canagliflozin),

Jardiance (Empagliflozin), Farxiga (Dapagliflozin), Steglatro (Ertugliflozin), Segluromet (Ertugliflorizin/Metformin), Xigduo XR (Dapaglifloain / Metformin), Ritalin (Methylphenidate), Bexagliflozin

(Brenzavvy), **Sotagliflozin** (Inpefa, Zynquista).

STOP 2-3 DAYS PRIOR: Eliquis (Apixaban), Xarelto (Rivaroxaban), Pradaxa (Dabigatran).

STOP 1 DAY PRIOR: Heparin, Lovenox.

STOP DAY BEFORE Insulin dependent patients MUST reduce long-acting insulin dose by 50% PROCEDURE: the night before procedure and you will resume after. Check your blood

the night before procedure and you will resume after. Check your blood sugars at least twice: in the morning before beginning your clear

liquids and at bedtime.

STOP MORNING OF Don't take long-acting insulin, oral diabetes medications, such as PROCEDURE: Glucophage (Metformin), Glucotrol (Glipizide), or Actos (Pioglitazone).

Check your blood sugar in the morning before arrival time.

