

**MIRALAX/POLYETHYLENE GLYCOL BOWEL PREP**

The following instructions are your physician’s specific instructions. Please follow the instructions carefully to ensure a successful prep.

You can reach Your Patient Advisor with non-medical prep questions at **800.349.0285**

You can reach your physician’s office at **425.454.4768**

**Special Notes:** If you are taking blood thinner medication such as Coumadin or Plavix, and haven’t spoken to a WAGI nurse, please call our office.

If you are taking a GLP-1 medication (Ozempic, Trulicity, etc.), please hold your weekly or daily dose prior to your procedure. If you have concerns regarding this, please contact your primary care provider.

Five (5) Days Prior To Procedure	Three (3) Days Prior to Procedure	Two (2) Days Prior to Procedure	One (1) Day Prior to Procedure	Day of Procedure
<p><b>Review your prep instructions thoroughly.</b></p> <p><b>STOP</b> oil-based and iron supplements.</p>	<p><b>STOP</b> eating any raw fruits, raw vegetables or vegetables containing seeds, corn, popcorn, nuts and seeds.</p> <p><b>STOP</b> any fiber supplements until after the procedure.</p> <p>Purchase clear liquid diet items, and either Vaseline or Desitin for use during prep.</p>	<p>Continue <b>NO</b> raw fruits, raw vegetables or vegetables containing seeds, corn, popcorn, nuts and seeds.</p> <p><b>NO</b> fiber supplements until after the procedure.</p> <p>Confirm arrangements with your friend or family member who will be <b>DRIVING YOU HOME</b>.</p>	<p><b>ONCE YOU WAKE UP, YOU <u>MUST ADHERE TO THE CLEAR LIQUID DIET</u>.</b> Drink 16 ounces of water in the morning and 16 ounces of water in the afternoon; drink additional clear liquids as needed to avoid dehydration.</p> <p><b><u>Prep at a Glance</u></b>  <b>3pm</b> - Take 2 Dulcolax/ Bisacodyl tablets.  <b>6pm</b> - Begin drinking the 32oz prep solution.  <b>10pm</b> - Take 2 Dulcolax/ Bisacodyl tablets.</p> <p><b>For detailed, step-by-step instructions, continue on page 2.</b></p>	<p>Begin drinking the 32oz prep solution as detailed on page 3.</p> <p>Please take all daily blood pressure medications with water <b>at least 3 hours</b> prior to your procedure.</p> <p><b><u>Nothing by mouth 3 hours prior to your procedure.</u></b> This includes water, gum, hard candy, lozenges, mints, and tobacco products. You may brush your teeth, but do not swallow.</p> <p><i>If you have anything in your mouth during the 3 hours prior to your procedure, your appointment may need to be rescheduled.</i></p>

## THE DAY BEFORE YOUR PROCEDURE

ONCE YOU WAKE UP, YOU **MUST** ADHERE TO THE CLEAR LIQUID DIET. Drink plenty of water throughout the day to avoid dehydration.

### **CLEAR LIQUID DIET** (No liquids with red or blue dye)

- Bouillon/Broth: chicken, beef or vegetable
- Juice: apple, white cranberry, white grape
- Water: plain or flavored
- Soda: Sprite or 7-Up
- Other: Gatorade, Crystal Light, Pedialyte, coffee, tea (Do NOT add milk, cream or non-dairy creamer; you may add sugars or other sweeteners if desired)
- Popsicles: orange, lemon, lime
- Jell-O: orange, lemon, lime
- Candy: hard candy such as LifeSavers, suckers, gummy bears
- **NO ALCOHOL**

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**At 3pm** the day prior to your procedure

- Pour the 64oz (½ gallon) of Gatorade/flavored drink mix into a pitcher and chill in the refrigerator.
- Take 2 Dulcolax/Bisacodyl tablets.

2

**Between 6pm and 7pm** the evening prior to your procedure

- Mix together the **ENTIRE BOTTLE** (8.3oz/238g) of Miralax/Polyethylene Glycol with **64oz** of chilled Gatorade/flavored drink mix.

3

**Between 6pm and 7pm** the evening prior to your procedure

- Drink an 8oz glass of the solution every 20-30 minutes until you have finished drinking **HALF THE MIXTURE (32oz)**.

4

**At 10pm** the evening prior to your procedure

- Take 2 Dulcolax/Bisacodyl tablets.

*Diarrhea should start within one hour of the first dose, but may take 5-6 hours, depending on the person. If you haven't had a bowel movement by midnight, you should obtain a bottle of magnesium citrate (296mL) from your local pharmacy, and drink the entire bottle. You may experience irritation to the anal area due to the diarrhea. If you experience anal discomfort, you may use pre-moistened towelettes (Cottonettes). You may also apply Vaseline or Desitin to the peri-anal area after each bowel movement to minimize irritation.*

## THE DAY OF YOUR PROCEDURE

**NO FOOD until after your procedure.** Drink plenty of water throughout the day to avoid dehydration.

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### Six (6) Hours Prior to Leaving Home

- Begin the second half of the preparation solution. Follow the same instructions as the previous night.  
*\*Prep must be completed no later than **3 hours** prior to your procedure.*
- After completing the preparation, you may continue a **\*clear liquid diet until 3 hours** before your colonoscopy appointment. After that nothing by mouth until after your exam. **DO NOT** use chewing tobacco, gum, lozenges, candy or breath mints.
- If you regularly take medications in the morning, take it at least **three (3) hours** before your colonoscopy with a small amount of water.  
*You should be passing clear stool.*

## THE DAY OF THE PROCEDURE

### 3 hours before your procedure

- If you take daily medication, you must take it with **small sips of water only, at least 3 hours before** your procedure
- Nothing to eat or drink until after your procedure
- Do not use chewing tobacco, gum, lozenges, candy, or breath mints
- If you are not passing clear stool at this point, call the office for additional guidance at 425.454.4768.

### Please bring to your procedure

- A responsible driver to take you home. You will not be allowed to walk or drive home.
- Insurance cards and photo ID—you will be asked to present these at EVERY visit to our office
- Inhaler—if you use an inhaler, please bring it with you
- If you wear dentures, hearing aids, contact lenses, or glasses please bring a case for safe storage during your procedure. Glasses and contacts are required to be removed for all procedures. (Dentures will only need to be removed for an upper endoscopy).

**You must arrange for a responsible licensed driver to take you home after your procedure and assist you with follow-up care. You cannot walk home, drive, operate any machinery, or go to work for at least 12 hours after your examination. Failure to have a ride arranged to take you home will result in your appointment being rescheduled. Alcohol and sedatives should be avoided for 24 hours after the procedure.**

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### **What is a clear stool?**

A clear stool can have a slight tint of yellow or brown. It will be completely transparent, and will not contain any solid matter. The bottom of the toilet can be seen through clear stool.

### **I am not having bowel movements, what should I do?**

Bowel movements can take up to 2 hours to start after beginning the prep, but may take 5-6 hours, depending on the person. Be patient, continue to drink clear liquids. If you have not had a bowel movement by midnight the night prior to your procedure, you should obtain a bottle of magnesium citrate (296mL), from your local pharmacy, and drink the entire bottle.

### **The prep is making me nauseous, what should I do?**

If you develop nausea or vomiting, slow down the rate at which you drink the solution. Please attempt to drink all of the laxative solution even if it takes you longer. If vomiting persists, or you are not able to finish the preparation, stop the preparation and call your physician's office for further instructions.

### **What are some high fiber foods I should avoid?**

Raw fruits and vegetables are typically high in fiber, as well as nuts, seeds, whole grain breads, beans and lentils.

### **If I eat popcorn or seeds 3 days before my procedure, do I need to reschedule?**

You will not need to reschedule your procedure, however the seeds or nuts may cause a difficulty in screening and require a need for rescreening. If you have eaten a large amount of seeds or nuts, you may want to contact the nurse or physician.

### **Can I drink ALCOHOL on the liquid diet?**

Alcohol is not allowed as part of the clear liquid diet.

### **Can I continue to be on the liquid diet after I begin consuming the laxatives?**

Yes, we encourage you to continue the clear liquid diet until you are directed to discontinue anything by mouth, which is typically **three (3) hours** before the procedure.

### **Why do I have to wake up so early for the second dose, can't I take it all the night before?**

A split prep has proven to be the most effective for a successful colonoscopy. It is essential that you follow the directions provided with your prep medications.

### **If I weigh under 100 pounds, do I need to take all of the prep?**

The liquid amount is not weight dependent. It is important to finish the prep for a successful colonoscopy.