



Monica Hum MD • FACS • FASCRS
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Halflytely Preparation Instructions

Five days before the procedure

- If you are taking **Aspirin** based products or **Vitamin E**, please contact our office for further instructions. If you are currently taking blood thinners such as Coumadin or Plavix, please let your physician know immediately, as you must stop this medication several days prior to the exam to prevent excessive bleeding. You must also clear this with your primary care physician.

Two days before the procedure

- Stop your fiber supplements (Kashi bars, high fiber cereals, Metamucil, Konsyl, Citrucel, Benefiber, etc.)
- If you were given a prescription for potassium supplements, take them as directed with breakfast.

The entire day before the procedure

- You may have a light, low fiber breakfast early in the morning. (e.g. yogurt, eggs, bacon, white toast – no butter) Do not eat vegetables, fruits, nuts, butter, milk, cheese, meat, or whole grain cereals.
- If you were given a prescription for potassium supplements, take them as directed with breakfast.
- **YOU MUST DRINK PLENTY OF CLEAR LIQUIDS THROUGHOUT THE ENTIRE DAY** – it is recommended that you drink a minimum of 32 fluid ounces of clear liquids spread out over the day **BEFORE** you start your prep. This will help prevent you from becoming dehydrated.
- You will be on a clear liquid diet. A clear liquid is any liquid that you can put in a glass and see straight through it. You may have Jello, bouillon, consommé, apple, grape, or cranberry juice, Gatorade, black coffee, tea, cola, or water. Anything that melts into a clear liquid (sorbet, Italian ice, ice, lifesavers) is allowed. Milk, cream, anything with pulp, or alcoholic beverages is **NOT** allowed. Solid food is **NOT** allowed.

The evening before the procedure

- If you were given a prescription for anti-nausea medications, take them 30 minutes prior to starting the bowel prep.
- At 3 p.m., take both (2) bisacodyl tablets with water. Do not take the bisacodyl tablets within 1 hour of taking any antacids. Mix the Halflytely solution as directed; add lukewarm drinking water to top of line on bottle. Cap the bottle and shake to dissolve the powder. The mixed solution will be clear and colorless. You will eventually drink the entire jug of laxative preparation; prescriptions are attached and you may choose between the flavors.
- Two to three hours after you take the bisacodyl tablets (about 6pm), start drinking 8 ounces of the fluid every ten to fifteen minutes. Chilling the liquid or sipping through a straw makes it easier. You will finish the entire bottle in about two hours. Be sure to **drink all the solution**. You may then drink all the clear liquids you like. You are to **STOP EATING OR DRINKING** eight hours prior to your procedure time.

The morning of the procedure

- Patients taking daily medications may take their regular morning dosages with a very small sip of water.
- Please do **NOT** chew gum for at least four hours before your procedure.
- **For COLONOSCOPY:** report to the Endoscopy Lab located on the first floor of the 77 Bldg. Park in the NORTH parking deck. You should arrive at least one hour prior to your scheduled appointment time.
- **For AMBULATORY SURGERY:** report to the McDonnell Surgical Center on Collier Road. Park in the McDonnell Surgical Center parking lot. You should arrive two hours prior to your scheduled surgery time.
- **For INPATIENT SURGERY:** report to the Admissions Desk in the main hospital (this is near elevator A). You should arrive two hours prior to your scheduled surgery time.

(Page 1 of 2 – please see other side)
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After the procedure

- You must have someone responsible drive you home after colonoscopy & ambulatory surgery - these are hospital rules because you will be given a sedative for the procedure. Your procedure will be cancelled if you do not have a responsible escort home.
- You should plan to rest quietly for the remainder of the day. You may resume normal activity the next morning.
- You should not drive or make legal decisions for the remainder of the day.
- Biopsy/pathology reports take about 3-4 business days to get from the laboratory. Please allow this much time before contacting our office for your results.
- If you have any questions, please contact our office prior to your exam.

Be sure to visit our website www.atlcrs.com to check our Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) section.