



What is this test called?

Colonoscopy

What type of test is this?

A colonoscopy is a visual test done by a doctor. It uses a tube with a tiny camera to look for and remove polyps and cancer inside your colon and rectum.

How do I prepare for this test?

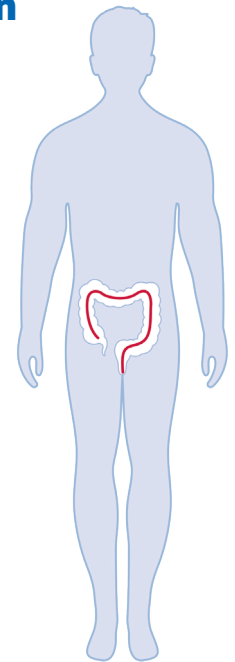
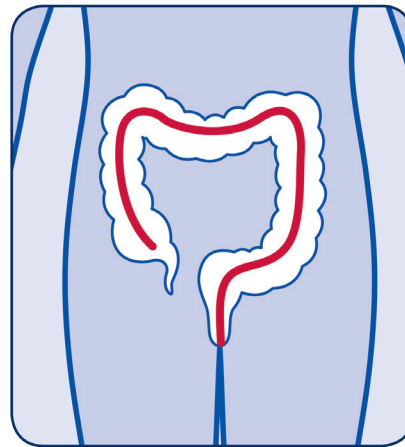


The day before the test, you have to follow a clear liquid diet. You will be given a prep (tablets and something to drink) to take the night before and the morning of the test. It will cause diarrhea (watery stool), so you need to stay near a

toilet. This empties the colon so the doctor can have a clear look.

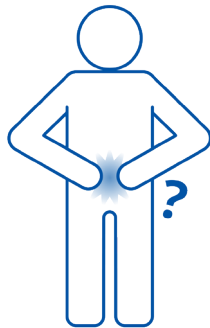
How much of the colon does this test look at?

A colonoscopy checks the entire colon and rectum.



Will it hurt?

No. You will get medication through a vein in your arm (an IV). It puts you to sleep, so you don't feel any discomfort.



How often should this test be done?

EVERY 10 YEARS*

* More often if polyps are found

Will I have to take time off work?

Yes. You will need to take 1 or 2 days off work. You will also need someone to drive you to the test and take you home after.



How much does it cost?

Most insurance plans, including Medicare, cover this screening test. Check with your insurance company about your coverage.