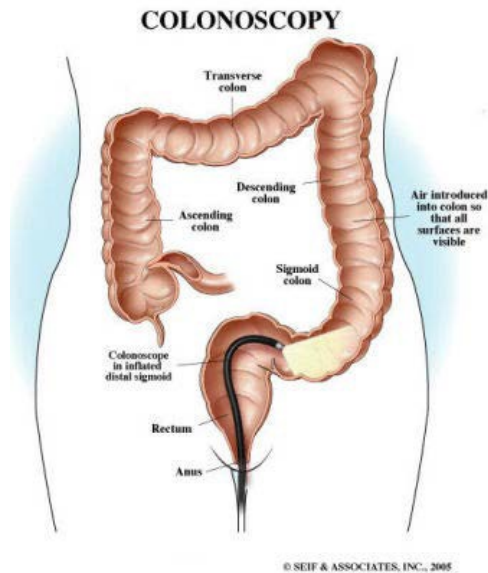


Colonoscopy

Testing Locations				
<p>Columbia St. Mary's Milwaukee 2301 N Lake Drive Milwaukee, WI 53211</p>	<p>Columbia St. Mary's Ozaukee 13111 N Port Washington Road Mequon, WI 53097</p>	<p>River Woods Outpatient Center 375 W. River Woods Parkway Glendale, WI 53212</p>	<p>Gateway Medical Clinic 801 S 70th Street West Allis, WI 53214</p>	<p>Sheboygan Outpatient Center 1414 N Taylor Drive Sheboygan, WI 53081</p>

What is a Colonoscopy?

A colonoscopy is an exam to evaluate your entire colon. Colonoscopy is an important screening tool for the detection and prevention of colon cancer. This exam helps to detect polyps, tumors, inflammation, and areas of bleeding.



What happens during the test?

A long fiberoptic tube is inserted through your rectum and into your colon. The colonoscope is a video camera that projects images to a large monitor, allowing your doctor to see your anatomy. You will be given medications to help you relax and keep you comfortable during the procedure.

How do I prepare for the test?

- You will be instructed to fast from solid foods the day before your exam.
- You will be allowed only clear liquids the day before your exam. It is important that you do not consume liquids with that contain red dye.

- Your doctor will prescribe a colon prep to evacuate stool and clean out your colon thoroughly. Please follow instructions carefully for best results. Your doctor will want you to drink half of your prep the night before your procedure, and repeat the dosage the morning of your procedure.
- Let your doctor know if you have problems with constipation.
- Blood thinners may need to be stopped prior to the day of the procedure. Let your primary doctor know if you are taking any blood thinners.

Do I need to have someone drive me to and from the procedure?

Yes, you will need to have someone drive you to and from the testing location on the day of your exam. The medication that you will receive during your procedure will impair your ability to drive. If you plan to take a taxi, someone must accompany you.

Should I take my medications on the day of the test?

Please notify your doctor of all medications you take both prescribed and over the counter. Your doctor will instruct you on which medications you should take on the day of the test.

How long does the test take and how long will I be at the hospital or clinic?

The colonoscopy takes about 30 minutes. You will be at the testing location one hour prior to your exam and one hour after your exam. Plan to be at the testing location for 2.5 to 3 hours.

Are there any instructions I need to have or follow after the test?

You will not be allowed to drive the day of your colonoscopy. You should not return to any kind of work or school on the day of your exam. You should not be involved in important decisions or sign legal documents. You should not use any appliances or machinery that requires a quick reaction time. You should not drink alcohol after your colonoscopy. Your doctor will provide you with any additional instructions based on the results of your exam.

How do I get my test results?

The doctor will tell you the preliminary findings before you leave the testing location. However due to sedation you will be forgetful and may not remember. You may choose to have the person driving you home hear the findings and discharge instructions. Also you will have written discharge instructions. If biopsies are taken or polyps removed, they will be sent to the lab. These results take about 3-5 days to get results. Your doctor will instruct you how to obtain your results.

On the day of your test, please let your caregiver know about:

- Allergies
- Medications
- Blood thinners.
- Diabetes
- Pacemaker/defibrillator
- Cardiac/Respiratory disease
- Sleep apnea
- Recreational drug use
- Use of medications for pain, anxiety, or depression
- Mobility issues
- Pregnant/Nursing

Other information I need to know:

- **Please follow all the test instructions to ensure that your test can be done as scheduled and with optimum results.**
- **Your appointment is very important to us. If you need to cancel, please notify us the day before your test or as soon as possible.**
- **If you have questions about the information in this guide or not sure which patient information guide is right for you, please call your doctor.**