



Adult Colon / Barium Enema

Diagnostic Radiology (Outpatient)

Welcome:

We would like to welcome you to OSF Saint Francis Medical Center Diagnostic Radiology Department.

You have been scheduled to have a Colon x-ray. This is a diagnostic test using fluoroscopy (a form of x-ray).

The information contained in this pamphlet will help you understand the test that has been scheduled.

When to Come, Where to Park, and Where to Go:

Please arrive 45 minutes before the time of your scheduled test.

What to Bring with You:

You may have had x-rays done at a hospital other than OSF Saint Francis Medical Center. Please bring copies of the films with you the day of the test. You may also request that the doctor's office send the films or results to us at the hospital before your test.

Prep:

Your doctor has requested a test, which requires your large intestine (colon) be as empty as possible. Therefore, be sure to follow all instructions. Use the LO-SO E-Z-EM Bowel Prep Kit. Instructions are included with the kit. If you lose them and need more, [click here](#) ----

Jewelry:

Please remove all jewelry from your belly before your test.

PREGANCY TESTING POLICY

It is the policy of OSF Saint Francis Medical Center to conduct pregnancy tests on female patients having a CT, MRI, Nuclear Medicine, PET, Angiography, or X-ray exams of the abdomen area. This policy is to avoid potential harm to an unborn baby as a result of the radiation or medications given during the exam.

A pregnancy test is required prior to the procedures listed above and should be ordered by your physician if you are a female:

- Between the ages of 12 and 50 and have not had a hysterectomy
- Less than 12 years old and are having menstrual periods
- Over age 50 and having menstrual periods

The pregnancy test must be done within three days prior to your exam at any OSF Saint Francis facility. Home pregnancy tests are not acceptable.

If you have your pregnancy test done the day of the procedure:

- Arrive 30 minutes earlier if you are scheduled at any OSF Out Patient locations.
- Arrive 60 minutes earlier if you are scheduled at Saint Francis Medical Center main campus hospital

If you know that you are pregnant please notify your physician.

Medications:

You may take medications with 2 to 3 sips of water. Diabetic patients may take glucose during the morning only if test is scheduled in the afternoon.

Allergies:

You may receive contrast as part of the test. Contrast is something given to let a part of the body be seen on an X-ray. The contrast in this test is called barium. If you have any known allergies to iodine or X-ray contrast, please contact your ordering doctor. You may need to take special medications before having this test.

Test Instructions:

You may be asked to wear a hospital gown for the test. A registered x-ray technologist will help the Radiologist with your test. The test will take about 60 minutes. You will lie on an x-ray table under an x-ray tower.

The x-ray technologist will put an enema tip into your rectum. A small balloon on the enema tip will be blown up to help hold the enema tip in place and make a seal to lessen leaking of the barium. Your large intestine is filled thru the enema tip with barium. Barium allows your colon (large bowel) to be seen on x-ray. The Radiologist will take films while your colon is being filled with barium. The x-ray technologist will also take films before you go to the restroom. More films may be taken after you have gone to the restroom.

** If you have a colostomy and your ordering doctor has asked, the colon test may be done thru the stoma.

Test Results:

Your test will be read by a Radiologist (doctor specializing in medical imaging). The radiologist will give a report that will be typed and sent to your doctor. You can make plans with your ordering doctor on how to receive your test results (such as follow-up doctor appointment, calling the doctor's office, etc.).

After Test Instructions:

You are urged to drink extra fluids for 1 to 2 days after a barium test. Your stools may be light in color and chalky. This is from

the barium. If your bowel movements are not normal within 24 hours, contact the doctor who ordered the test for more instructions.