

COLONOSCOPY CONSENT

Direct visualization of the digestive tract with a lighted instrument is referred to as gastrointestinal endoscopy. Your physician **Shahrad Radi Shamsi, M.D.**, has advised you of the need to have this type of examination. The following information is presented to explain the procedure and review the possible risks of the procedure.

Colonoscopy is considered the best method for detecting abnormalities of the colon. No test is 100% accurate, and rarely polyps, cancers, or other abnormalities of the colon can be missed by colonoscopy.

You will be sedated using intravenous medication. A lighted tube will be inserted into the rectum and the inside lining of your colon will be carefully inspected. A small piece of tissue (a "biopsy") may be removed for examination under the microscope. Growths ("polyps") that may develop in the intestinal tract will be removed using biopsy or electrocautery. Electrocautery may also be used to coagulate any bleeding lesions.

After you complete a bowel preparation that may include laxatives and/or enemas, you will be placed on your left side on the examining table. An IV will be started and intravenous sedation will be given. A flexible colonoscope will be inserted into your anus and passed through the lower GI tract, while the doctor looks for abnormalities. If there is a narrowed area in the tract it may need to be dilated.

Minor side-effects include: pain or redness at the IV site, gas or bloating, nausea, vomiting or drowsiness after the procedure. Rarely, discomfort may be felt in the abdomen or rectum. These sensations pass and are of a minor nature.

The following are rare risks of these procedures, but could be potentially life-threatening;

1. Injury to the lining of the digestive tract, resulting in the perforation of the colon and leakage into body cavities. If this occurs, surgical operation to close the leak and drain the region may be necessary.
2. Bleeding, if it occurs, usually is a complication of biopsy, polyp removal (polypectomy), dilation, or electrocoagulation. Management of this complication may consist only of careful observation or may require hospitalization, transfusion, or rarely surgery operation for control.
3. Heart or lung complications.
4. Adverse reaction to medications.
5. Very rarely, the laxative used for the colon preparation can harm the kidneys. Make sure to let your doctor know if you have kidney problems, and follow the preparation instructions carefully.

Preparation instructions have been reviewed in detail with me and I am in receipt of these instructions. I certify that I have read the above and understand the possible risks and complications noted. The doctor has also discussed the possible alternative examinations with me. I consent to the taking of photographs of my intestinal tract for my record. I hereby authorize and permit **Shahrad Radi Shamsi, M.D.** and whomever are designated as assistants to perform on me the following procedures: colonoscopy, possible biopsy, polypectomy, or cauterization.

SIGNATURE OF PATIENT

DATE

SIGNATURE OF WITNESS

DATE