



The Surgical Institute  
at True North

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BRETT LOCKE APRN

# What is a Colonoscopy?

## How will the day go for me?

**Date of procedure:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Arrival Time:** The hospital staff will contact you the day before your procedure and give you an exact time of arrival. If you have not been contacted by 3:00 PM please call the hospital at (580) 251-8449 or our office at (580) 255-9797.

**Expected length of procedure:** There will be 30 minutes of prep time. The surgery will take approximately 30 minutes and you will be in recovery for 30 additional minutes.

### What happens after I arrive?

- You will check in at Admissions and Outpatient Services (see map included in packet).
- Pre-op laboratories/imaging will be completed if not previously performed.
- A nurse will confirm your history, start your IV and fluids will be given.
- Dr. Miller will visit with you prior to your procedure and answer any questions you might have.
- An endoscopy nurse will arrive to take you to the endoscopy suite
- You will be asked to lay on your left side
- Propofol anesthesia will be administered by the anesthesia team and the procedure will begin

### Colonoscopy

How will my colonoscopy be performed?

• A colonoscopy is performed for screening, diagnostic or surveillance purposes. A flexible lighted tube, called a colonoscope, is inserted through the anus and passed through the colon to the cecum (where the small and large intestine meet). Air is administered into the colon to improve visibility.

• The camera is slowly withdrawn from the cecum to the rectum. The surgeon inspects the lining of the colon for polyps, tumors, diverticulosis (out-pouching's of the colon), inflammation and infection. Most polyps can be removed at the time of the colonoscopy. Additional biopsies will be taken if any areas of concern are identified.

• In rare instances, the entire colon cannot be seen and an additional study such as a barium enema or CT colonography may be performed the following day.

