

## **SCREENING COLONOSCOPY versus DIAGNOSTIC COLONOSCOPY**

Are you here for a Screening Colonoscopy? Or have your physician recommended a colonoscopy? If your answer is yes, please read this form entirely.

Per CMS guidelines, Screening Colonoscopy is:

“A colonoscopy being performed on a patient who does not have any signs or symptoms in the lower GI anatomy prior to the schedule test. “

The U.S. Preventive Services Task Force suggests a person over the age of 50 (or younger for a patient with a higher risk) should receive a Colonoscopy to screen for possible colorectal cancer. The Affordable Care Act mandates that insurance plans cover a colorectal screening without patient cost sharing (i.e. co-pays, coinsurance or deductibles, etc.).

**Please note:** *that any symptom such as a change in bowel habits, diarrhea, constipation, rectal bleeding or abdominal pain noted prior to the procedure and recorded as a symptom by the physician in your medical record could likely change your benefit from a screening to a diagnostic colonoscopy and cost sharing will likely occur. The physician must report any symptom or diagnosis and cannot alter medical records.*

Patients are NOT eligible for a Preventative Screening Benefit if they have had a colonoscopy within the last 10 years and the results indicated that they have colon polyps.

Patients under the age of 50 may not be eligible for Preventative Screening Benefits.

**Please review your insurance benefits to understand what your coverage will be if the procedure is considered a diagnostic colonoscopy rather than a screening colonoscopy. It is the patient responsibility to know their insurance policy.**



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Patients who are eligible for Screening Colonoscopy please beware: During colonoscopy if the physician finds a polyp or tissue that must be removed for pathological testing. This is not covered by the preventative screening benefit and will be applied toward your deductible or coinsurance.

Here is a list of bills for your procedure: physician fee, anesthesia, pathology, facility fee.

Thank you for choosing Specialty Gastro Center, LLC!

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