

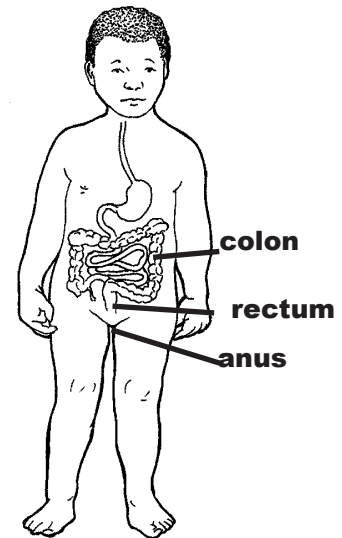
Child's Name: _____ Date of exam: _____

Time you check in: _____ Time of exam: _____

Colonoscopy

What is it?

In a colonoscopy (CO-lon-OS-ke-pee) the doctor looks at the lining of the large intestine (**colon**). The doctor uses a black flexible tube with a light on the end to see these areas.



Getting ready:

- If your child is old enough to understand, explain to your child what will happen. Do this when you think the time is right. Children do best when they are told what they will see, feel and hear during the exam.
- Your child should have nothing to eat or drink for _____ hours before the test.
- Your child's colon needs to be empty, so the doctor can see clearly. The doctor or nurse will tell you what to do to clean the stool out of your child's colon.
- If your child is taking any medicines regularly, tell the nurse. Medicines may need to be given earlier or later than usual.



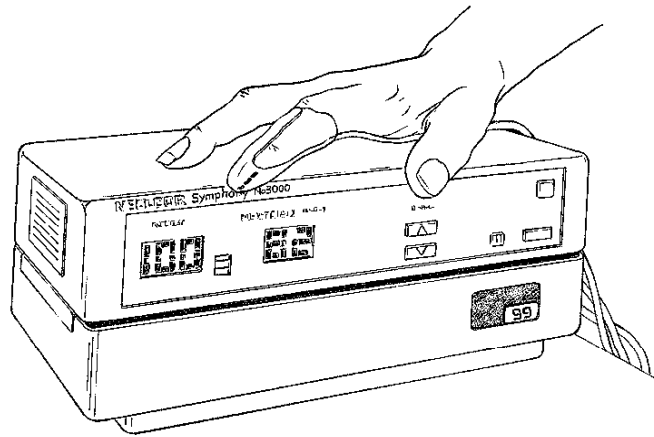
If your child has a cold or a fever, call the doctor at _____
The exam may need to be done another day.

Before the exam:

- Check in on time.
- After check-in, you and your child will be taken to the ambulatory care center to get ready for the exam.
- A nurse will take your child's temperature, blood pressure, heart rate and ask questions about your child.
- An IV (intravenous catheter) will be placed. This IV lets the doctor give your child medicine and fluids into the vein quickly and easily.
- Ask the doctor and nurse your questions about the exam.
- You need to give permission to let the doctor do the exam on your child. The doctor or nurse will ask you to sign a consent form.

During the exam:

- You and your child will be taken to the exam room, called the Endoscopy Room.
- The doctor and nurses wear gowns, gloves and glasses during the exam.
- Your child's heart rate, breathing, blood pressure and oxygen need will be watched very closely. The nurse will put a blood pressure cuff on your child. The nurse will wrap a small light on to your child's finger or toe (an oximeter), to check your child's need for oxygen.
- The doctor will put small amounts of medicine into your child's IV until your child is very relaxed and very sleepy. When your child is relaxed, you will be taken to the waiting area until the exam is done.
- A nurse will stay with your child through the whole exam.
- During the exam, the doctor may give your child more medicine to keep him or her comfortable.
- A small plastic tube will be put under your child's nose, to gently blow in oxygen. The tube is called oxygen prongs.



The nurse will wrap a small light on to your child's finger or toe, to check your child's need for oxygen.

- Your child will lie on a padded table on his or her left side.
- The doctor will put the black, flexible tube into your child's bottom (**anus**), and look at the colon.
- During the exam your child may feel cramping, or feel like he or she needs to go to the bathroom. Through the exam, the nurse will help your child feel comfortable.
- The doctor will take off small pieces of the lining of the colon to look at closely under a microscope (a **biopsy**). This does not hurt. Your child will not feel it.

After the exam:

- A nurse will watch your child after the exam. The nurse will take you child back to the ambulatory care area and watch until your child wakes up.
- Some children may need to get oxygen until they are awake.
- The doctor will see you in the waiting area and tell you about the exam.
- After the exam, some children are awake and some may be sleepy for the rest of the day. Every child is different.
- Your child will stay in the ambulatory care center until he or she is awake enough to go home.
- The medicine may make your child feel like throwing up after the exam.
- When your child is awake, the nurse will give him or her something to drink.
- The tissue for biopsy will be sent to the lab. Two to four days after the test, your doctor will call to tell you the results.
- Your nurse will tell you how to care for your child at home, after the exam. If you don't understand something, ask questions.



If you don't understand something, ask questions.

Now that you've read this:

- Tell your nurse or doctor how you will get your child ready for this test. (Check when done.)



If you have any questions or concerns,
 call your child's doctor or call _____

If you want to know more about child health and illness,
visit our library at The Emily Center at Phoenix Children's Hospital:
1919 East Thomas Road in Phoenix
602-546-1400
www.phoenixchildrens.com

Disclaimer

The information provided at this site is intended to be general information, and is provided for educational purposes only. It is not intended to take the place of examination, treatment, or consultation with a physician. Phoenix Children's Hospital urges you to contact your physician with any questions you may have about a medical condition.

Thursday, March 1, 2007 • DRAFT in family review
#116 • Written by Nancy Rayhorn, BSN, RN, CGRN • Illustrated by Dennis Swain



Name of Health Care Provider: _____ Number: 116
For office use: Date returned: _____ db nb

Family Review of Handout

Health care providers: Please teach families with this handout.

Families: Please let us know what you think of this handout.

Would you say this handout is hard to read? Yes No

easy to read? Yes No

Please circle the parts of the handout that were hard to understand.

Would you say this handout is interesting to read? Yes No

Why or why not?

Would you do anything differently after reading
this handout? Yes No

If yes, what?

After reading this handout, do you have any
questions about the subject? Yes No

If yes, what?

Is there anything you don't like about the drawings?

Yes No

If yes, what?

What changes would you make in this handout to make it better or easier to understand?

Please return your review of this handout to your nurse or doctor or send it to the address below.

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Thank you for helping us!