

## COLONOSCOPY PREP USING MIRALAX AND GATORADE COMMON QUESTIONS

### 1. Why is the bowel prep important?

A colonoscopy is done to find and remove pre-cancerous polyps and some cancers from your colon. As with any procedure, there is a very small risk of missing something. When you have an excellent bowel preparation, the risk of missing anything goes down dramatically.

### 2. Why do I need to get up so early for my bowel preparation?

It is important to us for you to have an excellent bowel preparation so that nothing is missed but also because an excellent bowel preparation can sometimes lead to a repeat exam in 10 years instead of sooner if the bowel preparation is not as good. By getting up early, this helps clean out the colon even better.

### 3. Will I be incontinent with the bowel prep?

No.

### 4. Can I drink the entire bowel prep the night before the procedure?

Yes, but it is not the best way to ensure a good bowel preparation.

### 5. What happens if I still have stool in my colon after a bowel prep?

Sometimes we are able to remove some stool from the colon during your colonoscopy so that we can see, other times we will ask you to repeat your exam in the near future with a longer bowel preparation.

### 6. Can I have coffee or chew gum before my procedure?

NO. The only thing that you are allowed to have the morning before your procedure is the 2nd dose of your bowel prep and some necessary medications that are mentioned in the Form 16.7 "COLONOSCOPY PREP USING MIRALAX AND GATORADE."

### 7. What time must I be done with the 2nd (last dose) of my bowel preparation?

You must be done at least 4 hours prior to your scheduled procedure time. For example, if your procedure is at 10:00am, you must be done by 6:00am, etc.