



BON SECOURS HOSPITAL TRALEE



# Bon Secours Tralee

# My

# Endoscopy

# Procedure

[www.bonsecours.ie/tralee](http://www.bonsecours.ie/tralee)

2024

# Table Of Contents

---

- 1** About Bon Secours Hospital Tralee
- 2** Endoscopy Overview
- 3** Preparing for your Endoscopy Procedure
- 4** Other things to consider before your Endoscopy Procedure
- 5** Preparation Days & Instructions if having a Colonoscopy
- 8** Medication
- 9** Guidelines for Patients with Diabetes having a Colonoscopy
- 11** Bowel Cleansing
- 12** Sedation
- 12** Pain Management
- 13** Day of Endoscopy Procedure
- 14** Blood Clots and Deep Vein Thrombosis
- 15** Am I Ready?
- 16** What to Bring to Hospital

# About Bon Secours

Founded by the Bon Secours sisters in 1921, the Bon Secours Hospital Tralee has the honour of providing over 100 years of service in Kerry. Providing "Good Help to those in Need", our Hospital is one of 5 in Ireland comprising the Bon Secours Health System, which is the largest private healthcare provider in Ireland.

Our goal is to ensure we continue to provide Advanced Medicine and Exceptional Care. We pride ourselves in our ethos that you the patient are at the very center of all we do. This ethos originated from our founders, "The Sisters of Bon Secours", whose purpose was "providing care to all who suffer and give them a reason to live and a reason to hope".



# Endoscopy Overview



## Colonoscopy

A colonoscopy is a procedure that allows the doctor to look directly into the large bowel (colon).

## Gastroscopy

A gastroscopy is a procedure that allows the doctor to look at the lining of the oesophagus, the stomach and the first part of the small intestine.

## Sigmoidoscopy

A sigmoidoscopy is a diagnostic test used to check the sigmoid colon, which is the lower part of the colon or large intestine.

## Bronchoscopy

A bronchoscopy is a procedure which allows the doctor to look directly into the windpipe (trachea) and airways (bronci) in your lungs.

## ERCP (Endoscopic Retrograde Cholangion-pancreatography)

Allows the doctor to take detailed pictures of the pancreas and bile ducts (ducts that connect the liver, gall bladder and pancreas to the small bowel).

# Preparing for your Endoscopy Procedure

- Make a list of what to take to hospital with you.
- Please contact your health insurance to determine the type of cover you have for your endoscopy procedure.
- Please follow the instructions sent out to you from your consultant regarding the times from when you need to start fasting from food and fluid. This will vary depending on your specific procedure and time of admission.
- Having food or liquid in your stomach when you are under sedation can cause serious complications.
- Ensure you have a responsible adult available to collect you from hospital and stay with you for 24 hours following sedation. You will not be allowed take a taxi, bus, train or walk home on your own.
- The person collecting you will be required to sign you out from the endoscopy ward.
- For 24 hours post sedation someone must stay with you.
- Also 24 hours post sedation you are not permitted to drive, operate machinery, ride a bike, cook or take alcohol.
- It is advisable not to undertake any physical activity.
- Your short-term memory may be impaired for 48 hours after sedation. You should not make important business decisions or sign legal documents during this period.

# Consent

**You will sign a consent form prior to the procedure outlining the procedure that is being performed, risks, benefits, and alternatives to the procedure.**

**If you are under 16 years of age your parents or guardian will be required to sign the consent form.**

**If for any reason you are unable to attend for your endoscopy procedure, please contact the consultant secretary to cancel and reschedule a date that is more suitable for you.**

## Other things to consider before your Endoscopy Procedure:

### Infections

- It is important that you have no active infections before endoscopy procedure. These include tooth abscesses, bladder infections, infected leg ulcers, insect bites or stings, colds, and flu.
- If you become unwell before your endoscopy procedure, please discuss with your GP or consultant

### Cosmetics

- Remove any cosmetics and false tan.
- Remove any nail polish and false nails.
- Remove any piercings as there is a risk of burns.
- Remove contact lenses prior to admission.



## Skin

- Ensure all wounds and cuts are covered prior to admission.
- Please ensure you shower the night before or morning of your endoscopy procedure.

## Blood Thinners

- If you are taking anti-platelet drugs such as clopidogrel (Plavix) or other anticoagulants/blood thinning drug e.g. Warfarin, please check with your cardiologist/consultant if these should be continued or discontinued prior to your procedure.

## Patients with Diabetes

- "Guidelines for Patients with Diabetes having a Colonoscopy" pages 9 & 10, "Guidelines for Patients with Diabetes having a Gastroscopy" pages 11 & 12.
- It is important to monitor your blood sugars more closely when fasting and when taking your bowel prep if having a colonoscopy.

## Pacemaker/other Cardiac Implantable devices

- "Guidelines for Patients with Diabetes having a Colonoscopy" pages 9 & 10, "Guidelines for Patients with Diabetes having a Gastroscopy" pages 11 & 12.
- It is important to monitor your blood sugars more closely when fasting and when taking your bowel prep if having a colonoscopy.

# Preparation Days & Instructions if having a Colonoscopy

## Preparation Days



## Instructions

If you take iron tablets, please **stop**.



### Avoid the following food:

- Lettuce
- Sweetcorn
- Beetroot
- Seeds



Commence low residue diet.

**Foods allowed** as part of low residue diet:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Lean Meat</li><li>• Ham</li><li>• Poultry &amp; Liver</li><li>• Fish</li><li>• Milk &amp; Cream</li><li>• Butter &amp; Margarine</li><li>• Cheese</li><li>• Eggs</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ice Cream</li><li>• Yoghurt (no fruit or nuts)</li><li>• Pasta</li><li>• White Rice</li><li>• White Bread</li><li>• Corn Flakes</li><li>• Rice Krispies</li></ul>
--	---

## Preparation Days

**Instructions****Foods allowed** as part of low residue diet:

- Plain sponge, scones & pancakes
- Sweet biscuits (no fruit or nuts)
- Cream crackers, Milk pudding
- Potatoes (no skins)
- 1 portion of Carrots or Cauliflower per day.
- 1 portion of Tinned Pears, Peaches or Mandarins
- Clear fruit juice, Water & Squash
- Minerals, Oxo, Bovril, Tea & Coffee
- Jelly, Toffee, Fudge, Jam, Honey & Syrup
- Vinegar, Pepper, Spices, Lard,
- Clear soups

**Foods not allowed** as part of low residue diet:

- Wholemeal pasta or Brown rice
- Wholemeal or Brown Bread
- Wholemeal breakfast cereal & biscuits
- Any cakes or puddings that contain whole meat or nuts
- All vegetables raw or cooked except 1 portion of carrots or 1 portion of cauliflower
- Pickles, Sweets with nuts or dried fruit
- Jam or marmalade with peel
- Minced meat
- Nuts & peanut butter
- Soups containing vegetables
- Lentils



Strictly follow bowel preparation instructions.



# Medication

Please complete the Medication form at the back of the consent form and bring this with you on the morning of your endoscopy procedure.

This medication list will be used during your admission by nursing and medical staff and will form part of your medical record. Please document the name and contact number of your pharmacist.

If you need help completing this your GP or pharmacist can help or may be able to give you a printout which you can bring with you to hospital.

We need a list of the medication you are taking, the strength or dosage and how many you take and how often you take them.

Don't forget to include:

- inhalers/nebulers
- eye/ear/nasal drops
- creams/ointments and medicated patches
- suppositories/pessaries
- oral contraceptives/hormone replacement therapy
- over-the-counter medicines for e.g. pain or allergies
- vitamins and minerals
- nutritional supplements and herbal products

We also need to know any medications you were taking in the past four weeks even if you no longer take them. Please document any allergies you have on this information / consent form. Ensure you read the information leaflet about your procedure prior to coming into the hospital. Make a list of any questions you have, and these can be answered by the nursing staff or Consultant.

# Guidelines for Patients with Diabetes having a Colonoscopy

## PATIENTS WITH TYPE 1 OR TYPE 2 DIABETES ON INSULIN

*(Please refer to diabetic instructions given to you by your Consultant)*

### Day before Colonoscopy

- Start bowel preparation as instructed.
- Drink plenty of fluids during the preparation period including full sugar drinks such as 7up.
- Continue long-acting insulins such as (Lantus or Toujeo or Abasaglar or Levemir or Tresiba).
- Do not take fast acting insulin such as (NovoRapid or Humalog or Apidra) the day before your procedure.
- If on a mixed insulin such as (Novomix 30 or Humulin or Insuman or Humalog mix) take half of the usual dose.
- Check your blood glucose levels every 2 hours.
- Please bring your insulin pens / diabetes medications and hypo treatment with you to hospital.

### Day of Colonoscopy – Morning List (AM)

- Do not take morning fast acting insulin (NovoRapid or Humalog or Apidra).
- If on a mixed Insulin such as (Novomix or Humulin or Insuman or Humalog Mix) take half of the usual dose.
- If on Lantus or Toujeo or Tresiba or Abasaglar or Levemir continue your usual dose. If normally taken in the morning take half of your usual dose.
- Monitor your blood glucose levels every 2 hours.

## Day of Colonoscopy – Afternoon List (PM)

- You can have full sugar clear drinks such as 7up up to 2 hours before your procedure. Exception double procedure OGD & colonoscopy.
- Do not take morning fast acting insulin (NovoRapid or Humalog or Apidra).
- If on a mixed Insulin such as Novomix 30 or Humulin or Insuman or Humalog Mix take half of the usual dose.
- If on Lantus or Toujeo or Tresiba or Abasaglar or Levemir continue your usual dose. If normally taken in the morning take half of your usual dose.

## After Procedure

- When you can tolerate food and drinks resume your fast acting insulin dose, this dose may need to be reduced.
- When you can tolerate food and drinks resume your usual evening dose of mixed insulin.
- Resume your usual dose of long-acting insulin when it is next due.
- Continue to monitor your blood glucose levels every 2 hours until stable.

## PATIENTS WITH TYPE 2 DIABETES NOT ON INSULIN

### Day before Colonoscopy

- Start bowel preparation as instructed.
- Drink plenty of fluids during the preparation.

### Day of Colonoscopy

- Do not take morning diabetes medication.
- Monitor your blood glucose levels every 2 hours.

# Bowel Cleansing

If you are having a colonoscopy collect your prescription for bowel prep from your pharmacist at least two days prior to your endoscopy procedure and ensure you understand clearly what times to take your bowel prep. It is very important to follow all the instructions correctly. The bowel must be fully empty for this test, so that there is a good view of the bowel lining during the procedure.

If you do not follow the instructions, it may not be possible to perform or fully complete the procedure. Bowel cleansing preparations such as Moviprep®, and Plenvu® can affect the action of some medicines.

Examples of medicines that may be affected in this way include combined oral contraceptives, anti-epileptics, anti-diabetics, and antibiotics. The combined oral contraceptive pill must be taken regularly for 21 days, followed by 7 pill free days, to ensure full contraceptive cover. If you have been recommended to take any bowel cleansing preparations during the 21 days in which you take your oral contraceptive pill – please follow the guidelines below to ensure contraceptive cover after your procedure.

Day of Pill	Recommendations
Day 1 - 13 <b>Week 1 &amp; 2</b> (Day 1 is the first day you start taking your pill in your 21-day cycle)	Use extra contraceptive precautions for the 7 days after you take bowel preparation or abstain from sexual intercourse for 7 days and continue to take oral contraceptive as normal.
Day 14 - 21 <b>Week 3</b>	Use extra contraceptive precautions for the 7 days after you take bowel preparation or abstain from sexual intercourse for 7 days. And continue taking your next 21 days of oral contraceptive without the usual 7 'pill free days'.
Day 21 - 28 <b>Week 4</b>	Take your bowel preparation as prescribed, recommence your oral contraceptive on the usual day, and use extra contraceptive precautions for 7 days or abstain from sexual intercourse for 7 days.

# Sedation

Sedation is the use of a small amount of medication to produce a 'sleepy' like state. It is given into a vein through a needle in your hand. It makes you relaxed during the procedure.

It is important to note that procedures carried out in the endoscopy unit are done under conscious sedation and not general anaesthetic. Some patients may or may not remember the procedure afterwards.

The effects of the sedation will last for up to 24 hours.

# Comfort

You will be asked about your comfort level during the procedure.

# Pain Management

Your nursing team will ask you to score your pain levels on a scale (normally 0-10) to indicate whether you feel no pain, through to an indication of severe pain.

The team will also ask you to specify the location and the type of pain you are feeling and whether it changes over time. The nurse will assess your pain prior to discharge.

If you are having a colonoscopy, you may experience discomfort/cramps you will be encouraged to lie on your side post procedure and pass flatus (gas) to relieve any abdominal cramps or discomfort you may be having.

You will be given pain relief if required.

# Day of Endoscopy Procedure

## Pre-Endoscopy Procedure

Your nurse will admit you by taking a detailed medical/ surgical history and assessing your vital signs (blood pressure, pulse, respirations, temperature, and oxygen saturations). You will be given an opportunity to ask questions and the nurse will relieve any anxieties or concerns that you may have. Once you have understood the procedure you are going for, you consent to same and wish to take sedation the nurse will insert a needle (cannula) into a vein. This will be used by the consultant to administer sedation once you enter the procedure room.

## Intra-Endoscopy Procedure

You will then be taken to the procedure room, where your tests will take place. You will get an opportunity to speak to the consultant prior to the procedure. Your vital signs will be monitored regularly during the procedure. You may be on oxygen via nasal prongs. Staff members are aware of the importance of maintaining your dignity. If you find the procedure uncomfortable at any time you can stop it.

## Post-Endoscopy Procedure

Post procedure your vital signs will be monitored for up to an hour. Your comfort levels will be monitored, and analgesia will be given if required. Once you are awake and alert you will be given something light to eat. The nurse will contact your lift with a discharge time. Your lift will be given 1.5 hours' notice of your discharge time. You will be seen by your Consultant post procedure. You will be given written follow up instructions and discharge advise post your procedure. You will also, receive advice regarding sedation prior to you going home.

# Blood Clots and Deep Vein Thrombosis

## What is a blood clot?

This is when a clot forms inside a blood vessel usually your leg, which may break off and go to your lungs. A clot can cause death.

You have a higher chance of getting a clot in hospital than after a long-haul flight. A clot can form up to 90 days after being in hospital.

## What can I do to help myself?

- Ask for your risk of developing a blood clot to be assessed if you are admitted to hospital.
- Walk and move as much as possible especially after endoscopy procedure
- Do not spend long periods sitting on chairs or in bed – Drink plenty of fluids

**Blood clots can be very serious but there are effective treatments to deal with them and help prevent them. In hospital this may require taking medication, sometimes as an injection under the skin and sometimes wearing stockings. It will always involve moving as much as possible.**

## Signs & symptoms of a blood clot?

- Swelling or pain in your leg or calf
- Warmth or redness in the leg or calf – Fainting
- Shortness of breath or rapid breathing chest pain when you breathe deeply
- Coughing or coughing up blood

# Am I Ready?

## Check List

- I have contacted my insurance provider and I am fully aware of my cover for this procedure. (If you have an excess on your policy, this must be paid on admission)
- My carer is able to stay with me post discharge (at least 24 hours, or longer if required) The person taking me home is: \_\_\_\_\_
- Their number is: \_\_\_\_\_
- Any equipment I need to make my period of recovery more comfortable is in place.

## Important Numbers

### My Care Team

Bon Secours Tralee (066) 714 9800

My consultant: \_\_\_\_\_

My GP: \_\_\_\_\_

### Date and Time of Endoscopy Procedure

Date of Endoscopy: \_\_\_\_\_

Time of Endoscopy: \_\_\_\_\_

The consultant and or secretary will advise the patient of the date of the procedure. The hospital will advise the patient of the time of admission to the hospital via SMS text message after 11am on the day prior to your planned admission.

# What to Bring to Hospital

## Check List

### Essential clothing and personal care:

- Comfortable shoes: such as closed-back slippers or trainers – not heeled shoes or flip-flops
- Loose-fitting nightwear and a dressing gown
- Loose-fitting clothes for travel to and from the hospital

### Medicines and medical aids:

- Any walking aids you currently use
- Any insulin or time sensitive medication (such as sinemet, blood pressure, anti-epileptic medication) you are currently taking that you may need to take with your diet after your procedure
- Any glasses, hearing aids, contact lenses and dentures you currently use

### Other

- House keys
- Mobile phone and charger (please charge up before bringing to hospital)
- Reading material
- Contact list (if not on your phone)
- Wi-Fi available in the hospital

### What not to bring?

- Valuables, including jewellery and money. The hospital cannot take the responsibility for any valuables that go missing. Leave large sums of money at home.
- Large suitcases and bags, the storage space for these and for belongings is limited.

The **Endoscopy Department** at **Bon Secours Hospital Tralee** provides a comprehensive diagnostic and therapeutic Endoscopy service to an average of 9,000 patients per annum. The Endoscopy service is run from a state-of-the-art **Endoscopy Unit** which was opened in **May 2015**.

The **Endoscopy Unit** boasts 3 fully equipped procedure rooms, a fully equipped 1st stage recovery area which has 12 beds and a discharge lounge with 5 reclining chairs. All Endoscopes are processed in accordance with the relevant standards while using the latest technology in decontamination equipment. The **Endoscopy Department** also provides an I.T based "*Clinical Reporting System*" for GPs and patients.





BON SECOURS HOSPITAL TRALEE



# Our Contact



(066) 714 9800



[www.bonsecours.ie/tralee](http://www.bonsecours.ie/tralee)



*Bon Secours Hospital, Strand St,  
Tralee, Co. Kerry, V92 P663*