



WESTOVER HILLS
GASTROENTEROLOGY

Westover Hills Gastroenterology, P.A.
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PATIENT INFORMATION SHEET FLEXIBLE SIGMOIDOSCOPY

You are scheduled to undergo an endoscopic examination (flexible sigmoidoscopy) of the lower part of your colon or large bowel. This is accomplished by looking at the lining of the lower 12-24 inches of the colon with a lighted tube placed into your rectum.

In order to examine the end part of the colon completely, you will have to follow the flexible sigmoidoscopy preparation steps on a separate handout supplied to you.

When you arrive for your test, you will have your blood pressure and pulse checked. You will then be asked to lie down on your side on the examination table. The doctor will examine the end part of your colon (large bowel) with the endoscope. The examination takes between 5 to 10 minutes. If abnormalities are seen, biopsies (small pinches of tissues) can be taken through the tube. This will be painless. The biopsies are then sent to the laboratory for examination by microscope. The scope is taken out after the examination is complete.

Because no sedation is used for this examination, you may leave immediately after the examination. Before you leave, a checkout sheet will be given to you explaining the results of the test.

Possible complications from this test include abdominal pain or cramping, mild bleeding from the rectum and soreness. In addition, more serious complications can occur. These include, but are not limited to, tears of perforation (making a hole) of the colon, which occurs in less than 1/1000 examinations. If a complication occur, hospitalization, transfusions or surgery may be necessary.

Any questions you may have about this examination or its possible complications should be discussed with the doctor before the examination begins.

Do you have a mechanical heart valve or history of previous endocarditis (heart infection)?

Yes No

Patient Signature _____ Date _____