

Your position may change throughout the procedure. This helps steer the Colonoscope around your bowel.

After the Colonoscopy

After the procedure, you will be transferred to the recovery area, where you will be cared for and monitored by the recovery nurse until you are fully alert. Then you will be transferred back to the Day unit where you will be cared for and monitored by a nurse until it is safe for you to go home. The nursing staff will tell you when you may eat and drink before you go home.

Your doctor will speak to you about your procedure when you are fully awake.

If your procedure was carried out under sedation, it is very important that you have a responsible adult to accompany you home (car or Taxi) and to remain with you overnight.

It is recommended that you do not drink any alcohol, do not drive a vehicle, do not sit near an open or unprotected fire, do not operate any machinery or sign any legal documents for 24 hours post procedure. This is because the effects of sedation last this long.

The staff here at Aut Even will do their very best to make your Colonoscopy as comfortable and stress free as possible.



**AUT EVEN HOSPITAL
KILKENNY**

Colonoscopy Information

PIL0014

Aut Even Hospital
Freshford Road
Kilkenny
Co Kilkenny

Phone: 00353 56 777 5275

Fax: 00353 56 776 2147

E-mail: info@auteven.ie

www.autevenhospital.ie

Patient Information Leaflet

What is a Colonoscopy?

Your doctor has advised you to have a Colonoscopy procedure. A Colonoscopy is a procedure that allows your consultant to look directly at the lining of your large bowel (Colon).

The Colonoscope is a long flexible tube with a bright light at the end. It is passed into your back passage and around your Colon. The procedure may help to find the cause of your symptoms or even treat them.

During your Colonoscopy procedure, your doctor may need to obtain samples (biopsies) to obtain information if any abnormality is seen. This will help to plan the best treatment for you.

Taking biopsies is painless. All biopsies are sent to the laboratories for analysis.

Before Your Colonoscopy

It is vital that your bowel is empty for the Colonoscopy procedure. To ensure your bowel is empty, your consultant will have prescribed you some laxative solutions to cleanse your bowel. It is vital that you follow your instructions. If your bowel is not empty, the procedure may not be carried out. You need to be fasting before the procedure. **NO FOOD OR NO DRINK 6 HOURS BEFORE YOUR PROCEDURE.**

Before transfer to the Endoscopy suite, you will be asked to remove glasses, contact lenses, and any false teeth.

The Colonoscopy

Your Colonoscopy may be performed under sedation.

SEDATION: This is an injection given into your vein in your hand or arm to make you feel drowsy and relaxed.

On arrival to the Endoscopy suite, you will be asked to lie on your side with your knees bent. You will be placed on a monitor to take your blood pressure and a monitor is placed on your finger to check your pulse and oxygen levels. You will be given some oxygen to breath through a mouth piece that you place in your face mask.

A cannula will be inserted into your hand or arm. Your sedation will be given to you through this cannula by your doctor.

The Colonoscopy can take up to 45 minutes.

Air is passed through the Colonoscope into your bowel to allow clear views. This may cause you some discomfort and cramping. The air makes you feel like you want to go to the toilet. Remember your bowel is empty so you will only pass wind. Please do not feel embarrassed, this is normal.