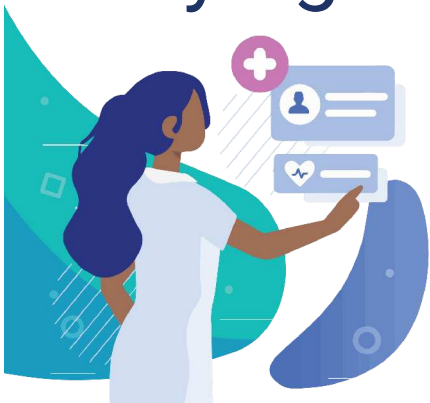


Paying for your procedure



We understand it is important to know how much you will be responsible for paying for your medical care. Because each patient situation is unique, the cost of care is not always the same. The amount you will be responsible for is generally determined by your insurance (if you are using it).

You can use this guide to assist you with determining what kind of procedure you will be having, so that you can inform your insurance company to help you determine your benefits and estimated responsibility.

Colonoscopy Types

Screening Colonoscopy

A test if you are **average-risk** for colon cancer.

- Done every 10 years for anyone age 45* to look for (and remove, if needed) colon polyps.
- Typically, screening colonoscopies are covered 100% by insurance companies.

Surveillance Colonoscopy

A test if you have **no symptoms** but are **higher-risk** for colon cancer such as personal history of polyps.

- Generally done more frequently than every 10 years based on the risk for colon cancer determined by the physician.
- Many commercial health insurance plans consider these diagnostic procedures and they may not be fully covered.

Diagnostic Colonoscopy

A test if you **have symptoms**, a chronic disease (IBD), or an abnormality your doctor wants to investigate.

- Not fully covered (meaning you may have to pay some of the costs).
- Often the doctor will take biopsies of the colon and/or remove polyps to help diagnose the problem.

* The US Preventative Services Task Force recommend screenings beginning at age 45. **Contact your insurance** to find out if your plan follows these guidelines.

Upper Endoscopy (EGD) is a diagnostic procedure, it is not fully covered by insurance, you may have to pay some of the costs.

You may get up to 4 bills for your procedure.



One from the doctor who did your procedure



One from the place where you had your procedure.



One from the anesthesia provider (if you had sedation)



One from the pathology lab, if a biopsy or polyp is removed.

