 Colonoscopy

Discharge Instructions

- Take your usual medicines as directed and follow up with your primary care provider as scheduled.
- You should expect to pass air from your rectum after the procedure.
- Follow these care guidelines during your recovery for the next 24 hours.
- If you have any questions or concerns, please call 614-293-6255.

You were given medicine for sedation

You have been given medicines during your procedure that might make you sleepy and weak. To prevent problems:
- Rest for the rest of the day after you are home. You should be back you your normal activity tomorrow.
- For the next 24 hours:
  - Do not drink alcoholic beverages.
  - Do not make any important decisions or sign any legal forms.
  - Do not work around machinery or power equipment.

The medicines used for sedation may make you feel nauseated.
- Start with clear liquids, such as tea, jell-o, broth and ginger ale. As you feel better you may add soft foods such as pudding and ice cream.
- When you no longer feel nauseated, you may try your normal diet.

You should be back to eating your normal meals after 24 hours.

Call if you have any of these problems

- Fever of 101 degree F or 38 degrees C
- Bleeding from the rectum
- Black stools or blood in your bowel movements
- Nausea with vomiting that does not ease after a few hours
- Abdominal pain or bloating
- Fainting

IV site care

- You can remove the band aid from your IV site after 2 hours.
- If you site is red or swollen, place a warm, damp washcloth on the site for 20 minutes every hour, until the redness or swelling stops or decreases.
- If the swelling gets worse or there is more redness after 24 hours, call the number listed above.

Talk to your doctor or health care team if you have any questions about your care.

The Library for Health Information is available to help you find more health information at (614) 293-3707 or e-mail: health-info@osu.edu.

© February 26, 2016, The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center.