

## Diabetes Instructions for Colonoscopy Preparation and Procedure

These are general guidelines. Please call the health care provider who manages your diabetes for questions regarding taking your insulin the day before your procedure.

For people with diabetes, any procedure that causes you to miss a meal or change your usual meal plan will require special planning to safely manage blood glucose.

**INSULIN AND DIABETES PILLS:** If you are a diabetic, it is important to monitor your blood sugar while doing the bowel preparation. **Non-insulin diabetics only take your am diabetes pills the day before your procedure. You should not take any diabetic medications on the day of your procedure.** Please be sure to check your blood sugar at home at all meals, at bedtime and on the morning on your exam.

### **Please use these tips to schedule your examination:**

Schedule the appointment for early in the day so that you can eat afterwards and take your medication as close to the usual time as possible.

Check your blood glucose level before all meals and at bedtime on the preparation day and on the day of the procedure.

Check your blood glucose if at any time you have symptoms of low blood glucose or very high blood glucose.

Bring your blood glucose meter, test strips, and a clear low blood glucose treatment with you on the day of the procedure.

### **Clear liquid food choices for the day before your colonoscopy:**

\*Aim for 45 grams of carbohydrate at meals and 15-30 grams of carbohydrate for liquid snacks.

\*Avoid liquids that are red or have red dyes (cherry, berry, or grape flavors).

(over)

**Sample of Clear Liquid Choices with Grams of Carbohydrates:**

- \*Apple juice (4 ounces) 15 grams of carbohydrates
- \*White grape juice (4 ounces) 10 – 15 grams of carbohydrates
- \*Sports drinks such as Gatorade (8 ounces) 14 grams of carbohydrates
- \*Gelatin (Jell-O), regular sweetened (1/2 cup) 15 grams of carbohydrates
- \*Orange popsicles or ice pops (read the label) 30 grams of carbohydrates
- \*Italian ice—not sherbet (read the label) 30 grams of carbohydrates
- \*Sugar (for coffee or tea) (1 teaspoon or packet) 4 grams of carbohydrates

**Food items without carbohydrates:**

- \*Fat-free broth, bouillon, or consommé
- \*Diet clear soda
- \*Coffee
- \*Tea, unsweetened or diet
- \*Seltzer
- \*Flavored water