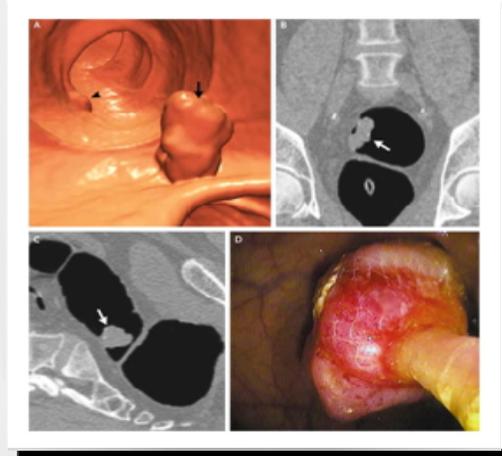


**King Abdulaziz Medical City
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CT Scan**

CT Colonography Facts:

- Minimal discomfort
- No sedation required
- Images of the entire colon are acquired
- Minimal time commitment for procedure



Prevent Colon Cancer Before It Starts

What is CT Colonography?

CT Colonography, often referred to as “virtual colonoscopy,” is a CT scan x-ray test designed to simulate colonoscopy to look for large colon polyps and cancers. This test has been recommended in people without symptoms to screen for colon polyps and cancers.

What happens during a CT Colonography?

First, a radiology nurse inserts a tube into your rectum and gas is pumped into the colon until it is fully expanded. Then you are asked to hold your breath while lying on your stomach and a CT scan is performed. You then turn over onto your back and again hold your breath while a second CT scan of the abdomen and pelvis is performed.

Does it require bowel cleansing (laxatives)?

Yes. The bowel-cleansing regimen is the same as that for colonoscopy. On the day before the procedure, you stay on clear liquids all day and on the evening before and the morning of the procedure; laxatives are taken to flush waste from the colon. a preparation kit will be given to you and an instruction will be explained by the nurse in CT scan area after you booked your appointment.

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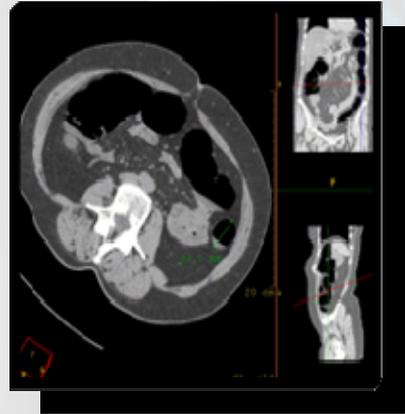
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Is CT Colonography painful?

Because no sedation is used, the expansion of the colon with gas can be painful.

What happens after the test?

The radiologist will examine the colon and other structures within the pelvis and abdomen and generate a report for the physician who ordered the test. Sometimes information about polyps in the colon is known immediately. If so, some radiology centers and endoscopy units are equipped to perform colonoscopy and remove the polyp on the same day without having to repeat the bowel preparation. If not, colonoscopy will need to be performed another day after the bowel is cleansed.



What are the advantages of CT Colonography?

CT colonography is non invasive. It has a lower risk of perforation of the colon. CT colonography is typically performed without sedation, so no driver is needed. CT colonography occasionally identifies an important abnormality outside of the colon, such as a large abdominal aortic aneurysm or a possible cancer.

How accurate is CT Colonography?

According to the most recent large study performed in the United States, CT colonography is almost 100% sensitive for the detection of patients with a polyp 1cm or larger in size. These large polyps constitute about 10% of all colorectal polyps and are the most likely to develop into cancer.



How often is a Colonoscopy needed to remove polyps?

The older the patient, the greater the chance that a polyp will be detected that requires a complete colonoscopy. In the hands of the best CT colonographers, about 12% of patients undergoing CT colonography will require colonoscopy and polypectomy, but in older populations this number increases to 20 to 25%.

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How often should CT Colonography be repeated?

CT colonography is currently recommended for patients above 50 years old at 5 year intervals if the study is normal. For patients with family history of colon cancer, family members should be start screening for polyps at 40 years old.

For more information, please contact: 0118011111 ext.11887 /11185

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