

Digestive Health *Specialists* Open Access Program for Screening Colonoscopy



We make it easier to schedule your screening Colonoscopy

Digestive Health Specialists (DHS) offers open access colonoscopy, which allows patients or their physicians to schedule a screening colonoscopy by calling DHS directly without a consultation with one of our physicians. This is appropriate for healthy patients who need a screening colonoscopy and who would like to avoid the extra time and expenses of a consultation prior to their colonoscopy. If you are 80 years or older, or if you have serious or multiple medical conditions, we may need to see you in consultation before your colonoscopy to ensure that it is safe for you to have a colonoscopy.

You will be scheduled with the physician of your or your physician's choice or with the next available physician if there is no specific preference. DHS will coordinate preparation, paperwork and insurance authorization (if required) to make the process easier for the patients and the physicians' office.

What is a Colonoscopy?

- Colonoscopy is the most accurate way to detect colon polyps and colon cancer, and the only test during which polyps can be removed.
- During the procedure, the doctor will examine the lining of your colon (i.e. large intestine) using a flexible tube with a camera called a colonoscope.
- If a polyp or other abnormalities are found, the doctor can remove the polyp or take biopsies for further analysis.
- The procedure will take 20-30 minutes to complete. You need to plan to spend up to 2 hours in our endoscopy lab.
- You will be sedated during the procedure. You will need to plan to take the day off from work and have someone else to drive you home. Your driver must stay in the endoscopy suite. During the entire procedure.

Contact Us

To schedule a colonoscopy, please call 253-272-5127 or go to www.dhsgi.com