

SURGERY GROUP OF GRAND ISLAND

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There are two ways of billing your insurance company for this procedure - as a screening colonoscopy or a diagnostic colonoscopy. We will use your health history and your initial office visits notes to determine which of these procedures will be billed to your insurance company. Please be aware that even if you came here with the intention of having a screening colonoscopy, if you mention any of the symptoms listed below under diagnostic colonoscopy (either on your healthy history or your conversation with the doctor) then your colonoscopy will be coded as diagnostic.

1. Screening/Preventative Colonoscopy - This tells your insurance company that you are not having any symptoms; you are simply having this colonoscopy as a preventive measure. Regular screening, beginning at age 45, is the key to preventing colorectal cancer. People at higher risk of developing colorectal cancer should begin screening at a younger age, and may need to be tested more frequently.

Cologuard is intended to screen patients who are at average risk. If you had a positive test result, you are being referred to our office for a diagnostic colonoscopy.

2. Diagnostic Colonoscopy - This tells your insurance company that you are experiencing symptoms; such as a change in bowel habits, rectal bleeding, diarrhea, abdominal pain, constipation, anemia, polyps, etc.

Note: A diagnostic colonoscopy will apply to your deductible and co-insurance.

Some insurance plans will pay for screening colonoscopies and some do not. We have no way of knowing if your insurance plan will cover a screening colonoscopy. You will need to call the benefits department at your insurance company before you have your colonoscopy to verify that a screening colonoscopy will be covered. If you have a policy that covers a screening colonoscopy at 100%, please let us know.

If a biopsy (sample of tissue) is taken during your colonoscopy, there will be additional charges. Your insurance company may or may not still consider this to be a "screening" colonoscopy.

If you wish to discuss this with our office staff, our regular office hours are Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Please call us at 308-384-7200 and ask for Brandi.