

Who Should Consider Virtual Colonoscopy?

If you are over 50 years of age, you can benefit from Virtual Colonoscopy (VC).

Colorectal cancer (CRC) is the second leading cause of cancer death in Canada. With early detection, over 90% of CRC's can be prevented or curatively treated.

Many cancer organizations recommend VC as part of routine screening for asymptomatic individuals who are at average risk for CRC. If you are 50 years of age or older, you are in this risk group.

Virtual colonoscopy is ideally suited for screening because most cancers begin as polyps – a known precursor to cancer. VC is able to detect these polyps so they can be removed.

Virtual colonoscopy may also be done to monitor growth of polyps, after an incomplete regular colonoscopy, or to assess for recurrent disease in people who have had surgery for CRC.

Book An Appointment

For more information or to book an appointment, contact us!

To book an appointment, please have your health care card, doctor's name, and requisition form (provided by your doctor) with you.

Phone

Local: 780-669-2222

Toll Free: 1-866-771-9446

Online

www.x-ray.ca

Speak With Your Doctor

Insight Medical Imaging accepts requisition forms from any diagnostic imaging provider.

Booking Hours*

Monday – Friday 8:00 am - 7:00 pm

Saturday 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Sunday Closed

**hours subject to change*

VIRTUAL COLONOSCOPY



COLORECTAL CANCER SCREENING WITH VIRTUAL COLONOSCOPY



What Is Virtual Colonoscopy?

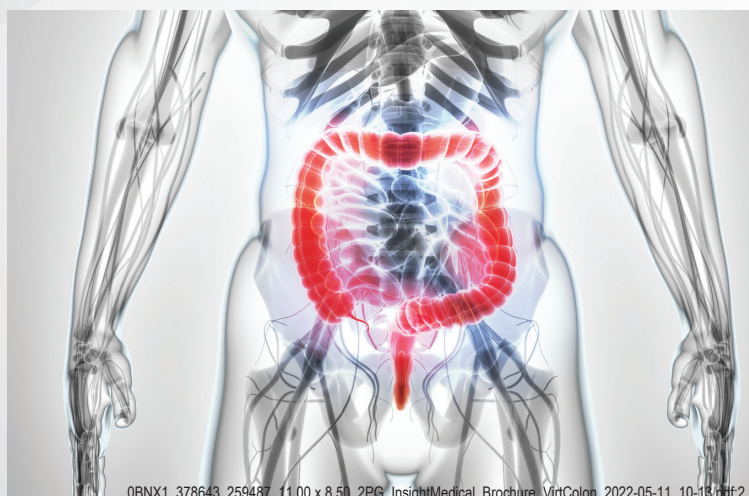
Virtual colonoscopy (VC) is a non-invasive procedure that produces 3D CT images of your large bowel (colon) and rectum. Abnormalities such as polyps and pre-cancerous growths can be detected with high sensitivity using this technique.

Preparation

Virtual colonoscopy requires the large bowel be clean and empty. You will need to start to prepare your colon two days before your CT virtual colonoscopy exam. A clear liquid diet, liquid solutions, and laxatives are taken to clean out the colon for the exam.

When you book your VC exam, you will be provided with instructions for a clear liquid diet as well as the medications required, and a liquid solution called oral contrast that you will take before your exam. The oral contrast will help highlight any stool left in your colon, making the exam even more accurate.

By following the instructions given you will be ready for the exam. There is no need to find special foods or medications.



How Is The Study Performed?

On the day of the examination, patients are positioned in the CT scanner and a very small tube is inserted into the rectum. Carbon dioxide gas is then introduced into the colon through the tube to distend the colon. This helps produce the high-quality images of your colon. Carbon dioxide is very safe and comfortable. The gas is quickly absorbed by the body so there is no persistent gassy feeling after the test.

Virtual colonoscopy is performed on an outpatient basis. All that is required is a requisition from your doctor.* Once the scan is completed you are free to leave. There is no mess, no sedation, and no gassy feeling. One of our Royal College certified Radiologists will interpret your study and your doctor will promptly receive a report.

"I was surprised how quick and painless the exam was. It was over in just minutes..."

*Virtual colonoscopy is not reimbursed by Alberta Health and Wellness, so there is a cost for the examination. Insight Medical Imaging offers a variety of payment options, including Visa, MasterCard, and Debit.

Advantages of Virtual Colonoscopy

- Virtual colonoscopy is less invasive, safer, and takes less time than a regular colonoscopy.
- Instead of a larger flexible camera, a thin tube is inserted only as far as the rectum.
- No medication for sedation is required, and you are able to carry on with your day minutes after completing the examination.
- Virtual colonoscopy can show parts of the colon that are sometimes inaccessible by a regular colonoscopy.
- Virtual colonoscopy can show some processes occurring outside of the colon that may require further assessment, but would not have been seen otherwise.

Note: If a polyp or mass is found, a regular colonoscopy may be required for further evaluation/biopsy of the finding.

