



## Fees for Services

- Many insurance providers do not cover virtual colonoscopy
- Call your insurance provider to review your benefits
- If your procedure is not covered by your provider, payment will be required in advance or at the time of your procedure
- Most major credit cards accepted
- Procedure fee is \$520.00

SERVICES OFFERED AT  
THE FOLLOWING SITES:



**WATERBURY  
HOSPITAL**

64 Robbins Street  
Waterbury, CT 06708  
(203) 573.6595

## Imaging Partners, LLC

*A partnership between Waterbury Hospital  
and Diagnostic Radiology Associates*

134 Grandview Avenue  
Suite 101  
Waterbury, CT 06708  
(203) 573-6200



Innovative  
**Colonoscopy**  
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**Virtual  
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# An Overview of the Virtual Colonoscopy

Virtual Colonoscopy is a minimally-invasive procedure that helps physicians detect polyps and cancers in their early stages.

As the third most common cancers for men and women in the United States,<sup>1</sup> colon cancers can almost always be cured if detected early.

## Why Virtual Colonoscopy?

Research published in the New England Journal of Medicine found that the more comfortable virtual colonoscopy exam, when combined with 3D visualization, is an accurate screening method that is comparable to a traditional, invasive colonoscopy.<sup>2</sup> Additionally, CT Virtual Colonoscopy gives your physician a three dimensional endoscopic view of the colon.

## Advantages of Virtual Colonoscopy?

- Patients are free to resume normal activities immediately following the exam
- Potential detection of other abdominal complications
- Examination times are shorter due to a new, high-speed, multi-slice CT system. A virtual colonoscopy exam provides automatic colon segmentation in just seconds, helping physicians increase the speed and ease of locating polyps



A 3-D view of the colon

## What you should know about the exam

- Follow all physician instructions prior to the exam, including whether to take your normal medications
- Cleansing of the bowel is required prior to the exam, and will include drinking clear liquids and taking preparations as instructed by your physician
- The procedure itself lasts approximately 20 minutes, during which time you'll be lying on a CT exam table
- Air is introduced into your colon through a thin tube to distend the bowel and allow polyps to stand out
- Some patients experience minor discomfort
- After the exam, your physician will notify you if further follow-up is required by a gastroenterologist
- After the exam, you may eat and resume normal activity

<sup>1</sup> American Cancer Society 2002  
<sup>2</sup> Pickhardt, et.al. NEJM 2003

# Know your risk factors...

The following factors may increase the risk of colon cancer, so you may require more frequent and earlier screenings:

## INCREASED RISK

- Close family member (parent, sibling, child) with colorectal cancer or adenomatous polyps
- Personal history of colorectal cancer or adenomatous polyps

## HIGH RISK

- Family history of adenomatous polyposis or hereditary non-polyposis colorectal cancer (a tumor from something other than a polyp)
- Chronic inflammatory bowel disease including ulcerative colitis or Crohn's Disease

## OTHER RISK FACTORS

- Age: Risk increases after age 50
- Diet: Diets high in fat from animal sources, including red meat
- Physical activity: Non-active people have a higher risk of developing colorectal cancer