

## Screening vs. Diagnostic Colonoscopy Fact Sheet

### Screening Colonoscopy

The patient without symptoms referred for a screening colonoscopy for the following reasons:

- Patient age 50 with no high-risk factors
- Patient has personal history of colon cancer or colon polyps
- Patient has family history (first degree relative) of colon cancer or colon polyps

### Diagnostic Colonoscopy

The patient may be referred for a diagnostic colonoscopy because the patient has symptoms. The symptoms may include but are not limited to:

- Blood in stool
- Bleeding from the rectum
- Iron deficiency anemia of unknown cause
- Change in bowel habits
- Persistent abdominal pain
- Constipation

**NOTE:** You should be aware that if a polyp or abnormality is found during the screening colonoscopy, the colonoscopy is then considered to be a diagnostic (therapeutic) colonoscopy and your insurance may process and may pay the claim differently than they would for a screening colonoscopy.

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Patient Signature

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Date