

Colon and Rectal Associates of Texas

Colonoscopy Charges

Many insurance companies offer screening colonoscopies at 100% coverage; however, each insurance company has different guidelines for how this coverage occurs. Screening colonoscopies typically mean that you have no symptoms and no family history of colon cancer and, most important, that upon completion of the colonoscopy nothing is found.

If your colonoscopy is performed as a screening colonoscopy, but polyps are removed or a biopsy performed, then your colonoscopy is no longer considered screening by many insurance companies. This means that the entire procedure is reimbursed under normal guidelines, which means it is typically applied to your deductible and your co-insurance.

If you have a screening colonoscopy and there are no biopsies taken and no polyps are removed, then it remains a screening colonoscopy. If the doctor identifies polyps or an area that should be biopsied, then you must understand that this changes the code and you may owe a deductible/co-insurance. You must also understand that it is in the best interest of your health that you have polyps removed or biopsies taken. Early detection and diagnosis of cancer and other diseases of the colon and rectum is crucial to a positive outcome.

Our physicians code all procedures and surgeries according to strict guidelines and all codes must match the findings of the procedure and what is contained in the operative reports.

You may want to call your insurance company and ask how they handle a screening colonoscopy (typically a 45378 code) if a biopsy is taken or a polyp removed (typical codes are 45380 or 45383).

In addition, charges for this procedure create bills and Explanation of Benefits (EOB) from your insurance company for the following: the physician performing the procedure, the facility where the procedure was performed, anesthesia and possibly pathology if a biopsy or polyp was removed.

I have read the above information and understand that my colonoscopy procedure may not be considered a screening colonoscopy under certain circumstances. I also understand that charges may be applied to my deductible/co-insurance.

Patient Name

Patient Signature

Date