



Colonic Manometry

Colonic manometry tests and measures pressure to assess the strength of the colon's movements, specifically how the large intestine contracts. It is done to help find the cause of motility problems through the large intestine such as constipation, stool accidents, or other bowel problems.

Before the Test

- If your child is old enough, explain to your child how the test is done at a time that you feel is best. The nurse and child life will help you with this.
- It may be helpful for your child to bring a favorite toy or game. This will make he/she more comfortable during the test.
- Some medications may interfere with this test. You may be asked to stop certain medications up to 72 hours before the test.
- Reassure your child that you will be with him/her during the entire test after catheter placement.

Day 1: Admit day

- If you are admitted to the hospital for an NG cleanout, along with the NG tube placement, you will have an IV placed at this time to help stay hydrated. This may not last the length of your stay and may need to be replaced. NOTE: some patients will not need a NG tube cleanout or early admittance to the hospital.

Day 2: Placement of the Catheter and Colonic Study

- A pediatric anesthesiologist will administer anesthesia, a medication that helps your child sleep during the procedure.
- While asleep, the doctor will place the catheter that will be used for this study. The catheter will go through the rectum and into the colon. The placement of this catheter will be done using a colonoscope. A colonoscope is a hose-like tube with a light and camera at the end used to look at the colon. The colonoscope will then be taken out and the catheter will be left inside the colon. It will extend from the colon, out through the rectum, and secured in place with tape and an Ace wrap to your child's thigh.
- Your child will go to the Recovery Room or the wake-up room to wake up. Your child will then be taken to a room for the remainder of the study.

- Your child will need to remain **flat and still** in bed for the remainder of that day and part of the next.
- **Your child must use a bedpan, urinal or diaper instead of going to the restroom.**
- **He/she will NOT be allowed to eat or drink anything for the rest of the day and part of the next day.** The intravenous (IV) fluids will keep your child hydrated.
- For the rest of the evening, your child will be free to do any activities that he/she can do while laying FLAT AND STILL IN BED. The actual study will begin early the next morning.

Day 3:

- Early on this morning, your child will have an X ray performed in his/her bed.
- The nurse will come and hook the catheters to the machine to start the study. The whole study will take approximately 6 hours.
- Your child will be asked to eat a meal at a certain time. Please do not allow your child to eat or drink until instructed to do so by the manometry nurse.
- Your child will be given medication during the study to help the colon contract before and after the meal.

What will my child feel during the test?

- This test does not cause pain, but sometimes your child may have some cramping when medicines are given to stimulate the colon during the test.
- Sometimes a small amount of water may leak from your child's bottom during the test.
- When the test is complete, we remove the tape and wrap holding the tube in place and remove the tube. Tape removal may be uncomfortable.
- Removing the tube is not painful.

After the Test

- Your child may return to a normal diet, play and other normal activities.
- Your child's doctor will discuss the results of the test with you in one to two weeks.

Resources



- **Simply Sayin'** – an interactive tool with definitions, drawings and information on the digestive system, hospital stay, preps and much more. Download the app from the Apple store.

High resolution manometry system

