

# What you need to know about CT Colon Screening

*Preparing for your procedure.*



**Your wellness is  
our priority.**

**St. Paul Radiology takes great pride by providing you with the best care and service experience in the East Metro area.**

We want to ensure you a positive experience at one of St. Paul Radiology locations by offering information on CT Colon Screening.

This CT exam is typically used to help diagnose the cause of abdominal or pelvic pain and diseases of the internal organs, bowel and colon. Contrast helps to illuminate disease and may be administered either orally or intravenously.

## **Should I be concerned about colon cancer?**

Colon cancer is the second leading cause of cancer death in the United States for both men and women, however less than half the population is currently screened for colon cancer. Key factors in reducing the incidence of colon cancer are regularly scheduled screenings that identify blood in the stool, colon polyps or cancers. These screening exams include fecal occult blood tests, barium enema, sigmoidoscopy, colonoscopy and the new CT Colon Screening. Discuss colon cancer screening procedures with your primary care physician.

## **What is a CT Colon Screening?**

The CT Colon Screening uses a new technology that provides a rapidly acquired, detailed study of your colon for cancer and polyp detection. A small tube is placed into the rectum through which carbon dioxide is used for insufflation. This distends the colon so detailed CT images may be obtained. Despite the potential risk of colon cancer, many people are reluctant to undergo screening because of the perceived discomfort associated with traditional screening procedures. The CT Colon Screening is a comfortable alternative to traditional screening.

## **Who should have a CT Colon Screening?**

The screening is most appropriate for asymptomatic men and women over the age of 50.

## **Is the exam painful?**

No. Most patients experience minimal discomfort during the procedure. Some report cramping during colon insufflation, however this is short-lived.

## **How do I receive my results?**

A Board Certified Radiologist, (a physician who specializes in interpreting diagnostic images) will interpret your exam, comprised of several hundred images. You will then be telephoned within 72 hours by either the Preventative Screening nurse or attending radiologist with your exam results. Your results and medical report will also be shared with your primary care physician, with your approval.

## **How long does the exam last?**

Although the CT Scan takes less than ten minutes, you should allow one hour for the entire screening procedure. You do not need a driver to accompany you.

## **Do I need a referral?**

No. Although a referral is not required, patients are strongly encouraged to work closely with their primary care physician to formulate a complete preventive care plan.

## **Is the exam covered by insurance?**

The CT Colon Screening is considered preventive for asymptomatic patients. As such, you should contact your insurance company prior to scheduling your screening to determine if it is covered. If the screening is not covered you may pay with cash, check or credit card at the time of your exam. Often, people are reimbursed through flexible medical spending accounts. If a polyp is found in your CT Colon Screening, a colonoscopy is recommended. This would be covered by insurance.

## **I've undergone the screening. Now what?**

When you receive your results, effective treatment options and next step recommendations will be discussed, based upon the outcome of your exam.

## **CT Colon Screening Facts**

- Minimal discomfort
- No sedation required
- Images of the entire colon are acquired
- Results are interpreted by a radiologist
- Minimal time commitment for procedure



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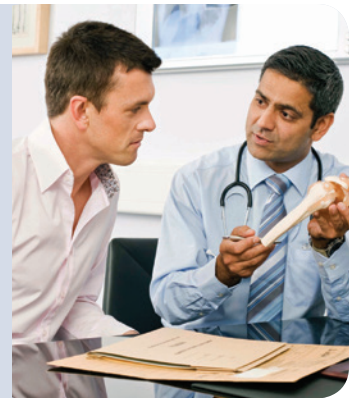
## We're getting a lot of signals from our patients.

Over 98% patients surveyed said they were satisfied with their experience at St. Paul Radiology. We understand their concerns and make them a priority.

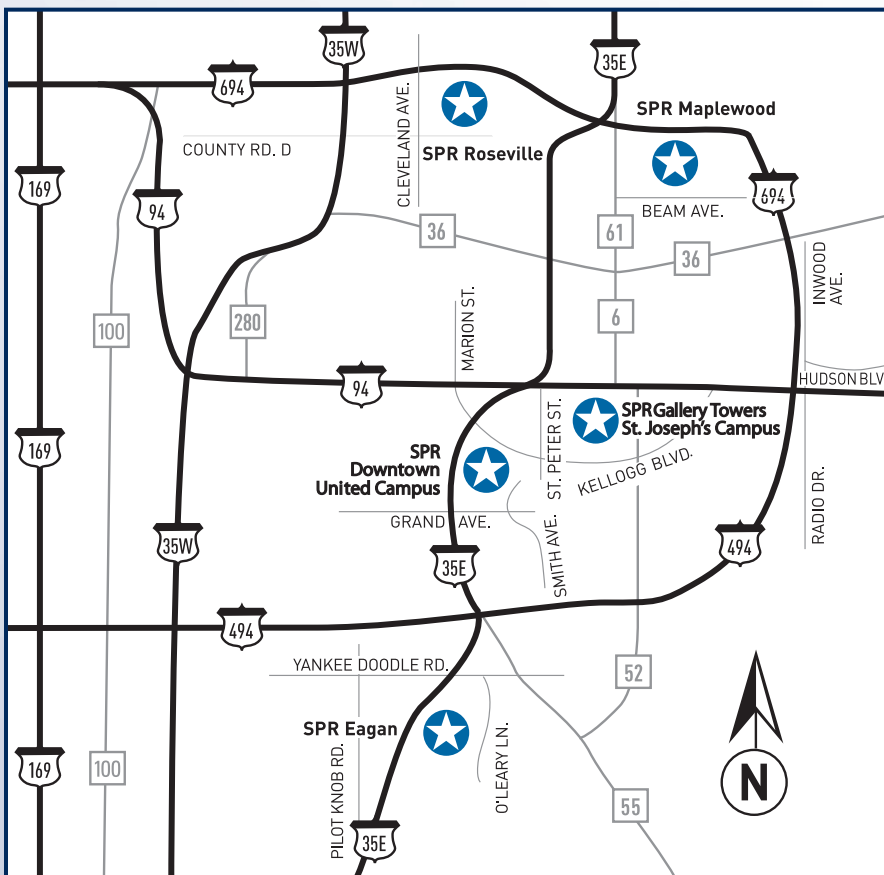
See what they have to say and let us know about your experience at:

**OurPatientsSpeak.com**

If you have additional questions, please contact the St. Paul Radiology scheduling department at **651.632.5700.**



## Five East Metro area outpatient imaging centers for your convenience.



Map not to scale.

### GALLERY TOWERS

514 St. Peter St. Ste. #100  
651.726.6500

### EAGAN

1185 Town Centre Dr. Ste. #125  
651.454.8660

### DOWNTOWN

250 Thompson St.  
651.297.6504

### MAPLEWOOD

1723A Beam St.  
651.747.4500

### ROSEVILLE

3130 Cleveland Ave. N  
651.631.0210

**StPaulRad.com**

## Appointment

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Location: \_\_\_\_\_

At: \_\_\_\_\_ : \_\_\_\_\_ On: \_\_\_\_\_ (Day), \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ (Date)



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