

# CT - Virtual Colonoscopy - Details

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## CT Virtual Colonoscopy / Colonography - Exam Details

**Available at:**  
DC, Sterling, & Chevy Chase

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### Purpose of the Exam:

CT Virtual Colonoscopy (also known as CT Colonography) is a non-invasive imaging exam used to:

- Screen for colorectal cancer and polyps in the colon and rectum
- Assist in diagnosing conditions related to:
  - Abdominal pain
  - Changes in bowel movements
  - Unexplained weight loss
  - Other digestive disorders

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### Why Choose Virtual Colonoscopy?

- Minimally invasive alternative to traditional colonoscopy
  - Faster procedure with no sedation required
  - Ideal for patients at average risk for colon cancer
  - Quick recover - patients can typically resume normal activities right after the exam
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### How the Exam Works

1. The patient lies on a CT scanner table.
2. A thin tube is gently inserted into the rectum to inflate the colon with air or carbon dioxide for better visibility.
3. The CT scanner captures high-resolution 3D images of colon and rectum.
4. The scan itself takes just a few minutes.

**Machine:**

