

## **Digestive Health Specialist, P.A. offers an Open Access for Screening Colonoscopy**

### **We make it easier to schedule your screening Colonoscopy**

Digestive Health Specialists, P.A.(DHS) offers open access colonoscopy, which allows You or your provider to schedule a screening colonoscopy by calling DHS directly without a consultation with one of our physicians. This is appropriate for healthy patients who need a screening colonoscopy who have screening benefits and who would like to avoid the extra time and expenses of a consultation prior to their colonoscopy. If you are 75 years or older, or if you have serious or multiple medical conditions, we may need to see you in consultation before your colonoscopy to ensure that it is safe for you to have a colonoscopy.

Your test will be scheduled with the physician of your or your physician's choice or with the next available physician if there is no specific preference. DHS will provide you with information on the preparation for the test, coordinate paperwork and insurance authorization (if required) to make the process easier for your physician's office.

### **What is a Colonoscopy?**

Colonoscopy is the most accurate way to detect colon polyps and colon cancer, and the only test during which polyps can be removed.

During the procedure, the doctor will examine the lining of your colon (i.e. large intestine) using a flexible tube with a camera called a colonoscope. If a polyp or other abnormalities are found, the doctor can remove the polyp or take biopsies for further analysis. The procedure will take 20-30 minutes to complete. You should plan to spend approximately 2 hours in our endoscopy lab.

You will be sedated during the procedure. You will need to plan to take the day off from work and have someone else to drive you home. Your driver must stay in the endoscopy suite during the entire procedure.

### **Contact Us**

To schedule your screening colonoscopy, please call 662-680-5565 in Tupelo or 662-324-7484 in Starkville.