

## About InView Imaging

InView Medical Imaging & Vein Care Center is a multi-modality diagnostic imaging center serving the Fremont community and greater bay area. We offer a wide selection of diagnostic imaging studies plus a variety of interventional procedures from biopsy tests to vein ablation. InView Imaging is dedicated to offering quality patient-focused care within a friendly environment, while making the patient experience as comfortable and uncomplicated as possible. Our dedicated and highly trained staff is ready to answer any of your questions and to ensure the safety and accuracy of your exams.

The commitment to our patients is translated through our superior customer service standards, knowledge and expertise in diagnostic imaging and through the advanced technology used by our center.

“Where Patients  
Come First”

## Multi-Modality

MRI	Image-Guided Biopsy
CT (CAT Scan)	Angiography
Ultrasound	Body Scan
Bone Density	Total Body Fat Composition
Breast MRI	
Virtual Colonoscopy	

[www.inviewimaging.com](http://www.inviewimaging.com)

## Convenience for Patients

- Insurance Authorization Processing
- Patient Scheduling
- Patient Transportation
- Walk-Ins Welcome\*
- Full Report (4 Hours)
- Wet Read/STAT (1 Hour)
- Satellite Radio in MRI Suite
- Exam images are available on film or CD.
- Physicians may also use our convenient on-line image viewing capability.

*\*there may be some wait time for walk ins.*

## Map & Directions

39465 Paseo Padre Pkwy, Suite 1000 (1st floor)  
GM Plaza Building - Next to the Alameda Courthouse

(510) 490-0961 phone

(510) 490-0971 fax

[www.inviewimaging.com](http://www.inviewimaging.com)

From Hwy 880, take Stevenson Blvd exit heading east. Make a left on Paseo Padre, the GM Plaza Building will be on your left. Turn into the driveway and our entrance is located in the rear of the building.



# VIRTUAL COLONOSCOPY

A Lifesaving Technology



# VIRTUAL COLONOSCOPY

Virtual Colonoscopy is an advanced type of x-ray exam that uses computed tomography (CT or "CAT") scanning to obtain an interior view of the colon (the large intestine) that can ordinarily only be seen with an endoscope inserted into the rectum. This new minimally invasive test provides three-dimensional images that can depict many polyps and other lesions as clearly as when they are directly seen by optical colonoscopy.

Polyps are growths on the lining of the colon that can mutate and grow into a cancerous tumor mass. By the time one notices blood in the fecal stool or changes in the bowel movements, or experiences of pain, colon cancer may have spread outside the intestine to other organs. At that point, the disease may be untreatable.

## Virtual Colonoscopy vs. Standard Colonoscopy

A standard colonoscopy requires about **45 minutes** for the procedure and **an hour or more** for recovery. Typically a sedative is given, so the patient must have someone drive them home, and the patient likely will miss an entire day of work.

Virtual Colonoscopy is a test with about **5 minutes** of discomfort and a **half hour** of recovery. The patient could return to work after the test.

## "The Prep"

The prep involved with Virtual Colonoscopy is the same as it would be for a standard colonoscopy. The colon must be vigorously cleansed, which is accomplished by staying on a clear liquid diet and consuming laxatives to flush waste from the colon.

## Advantages of Virtual Colonoscopy

- Less invasive than standard colonoscopy
- Decreased risk of perforating the colon
- Ability to show abnormalities outside the colon, which would otherwise be missed
- No sedation required
- Provides clearer, more detailed images than a conventional Barium Enema x-ray examination
- Ideal for patients with an increased risk of complications or elderly patients who cannot tolerate a standard colonoscopy
- Helpful when standard colonoscopy cannot be completed when the bowel is too narrow or obstructed

## Common Symptoms of Colorectal Cancer

- Change in bowel habits
- Diarrhea, constipation, or feeling that the bowel does not empty completely
- Blood (either bright red or very dark) in the fecal stool
- Fecal stools that are narrower than usual
- General abdominal discomfort (frequent gas pains, bloating, fullness, and/or cramps)
- Weight loss with no known reason
- Constant fatigue
- Nausea and vomiting

## What Happens During a Virtual Colonoscopy?

First, a radiology technician inserts a tube into your rectum and air is pumped into the colon until it is fully distended. Then you are asked to hold your breath while lying on your back and a CT scan is performed. You then turn over onto your stomach and again hold your breath while a second CT scan of the abdomen and pelvis is performed.

## What Happens After the Test?

If the radiologist finds any polyps, they will refer you to a Gastroenterologist to determine whether a biopsy is warranted. Polyp locations will be mapped out for the gastroenterologist in the event biopsy is deemed necessary.

## Is Virtual Colonoscopy an Accurate Test?

One recent study using special methodology found that Virtual Colonoscopy was able to detect colon polyps as well as regular colonoscopy. In addition, Virtual Colonoscopy can detect abnormalities outside the colon.

## Is it Paid for by Insurance?

Virtual Colonoscopy as a screening method is not currently covered by Medicare. However, some private insurances are covering this exam for patients with failed or incomplete standard colonoscopies. It is recommended that you contact your insurance carrier to verify this coverage.

## How Often Should Virtual Colonoscopy Be Repeated?

No one knows the answer to this question. In order to be cost-effective, it should be performed no more often than the interval recommended for regular colonoscopy, which is every 10 years.

## Are There Risks to Virtual Colonoscopy?

The risk of perforation or making a hole in the colon from Virtual Colonoscopy is probably very low. One risk that has not been fully evaluated is radiation exposure. The effect of radiation will be difficult to estimate until the intervals for performing Virtual Colonoscopy are determined.