

# **Lactose Breath Test**



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## PATIENTS INSTRUCTIONS

## Why does your physician order this test?

The test is used to detect lactose intolerance.

#### What is lactose intolerance?

Lactose intolerance is a hereditary condition and one of the most common causes of recurrent abdominal pain, bloating and diarrhea.

### How long does the test take?

The test takes three hours.

## Will i feel any pain or discomfort?

You might feel minor discomfort from ingestion of lactose including diarrhea, gas, cramping or bloating.

## How do i prepare for the test?

- Do not eat or drink anything 12 hours before the test.
- The day before you can eat the following:
- Plain white bread
- Plain white rice
- Plain white potatoes
- Baked or boiled chicken or fish
- Non-flavored black coffee or tea.

Salt may be used to flavor your food.



- Do not eat the following:
- Beans
- Pasta
- Meats (steaks)
- Fiber or bran cereals or high fiber foods (whole grains)
- Soda
- Cola drinks
- Butter or margarine
- **Do not** eat, drink, or chew gum or tobacco, smoke cigarettes, eat breath mints or candy before or during the test.
- Do take prescription medications with a small amount of water.
- Do brush your teeth before the test.