

TRANSESOPHAGEAL ECHOCARDIOGRAPHY



PATIENT NAME: _____

APPOINTMENT DATE: _____ **APPOINTMENT TIME:** _____

Please note, you should allow 1 hour for completion of this test.

PURPOSE: The TEE records images of the heart from the esophagus which allows higher resolution images of the heart. The TEE may be necessary to fully assess certain heart conditions, (for example, certain types of valve abnormalities, cardiac mass lesions, or abnormal cardiac blood flow) or abnormalities of the aorta, the large blood vessel into which the heart pumps blood. It is performed by a physician with a nurse in attendance. The test is conducted while you lie on an exam table. After a numbing medicine and sedation are given, a small probe is placed in your esophagus to conduct the test.

PROCEDURE:

1. The nurse will explain the procedure to you and have you sign a consent form, which includes information about your allergies and medications.
2. You will be asked to change to a gown with the opening in the front and removing all clothing from the waist up. You will need to remove glasses and dentures.
3. The nurse will record your blood pressure, pulse and heart rhythm.
4. A nurse will start an IV to administer the medications.
5. When the TEE test is ready to begin, the nurse will start oxygen through your nose that will continue during the test.
6. The nurse will spray your throat with a numbing medication and you will be placed on your left side for the procedure.
7. When the physician arrives to start the procedure you will be given medicine through your IV to make you sleepy.
8. After the procedure the nurse will monitor you.
9. You will be escorted to the main entrance by wheelchair.
10. The results of your test will be carefully reviewed and interpreted by the Cardiologist. The Care Group makes every effort to provide results of your test to your ordering physician within a 24-hour period.

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. It is important that you are on time for your test. If you need to cancel, please call: 317-338-6666 or 1-800-732-1482.



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2. If your test is scheduled in the morning, do not eat or drink anything after midnight.
3. If your test is scheduled in the afternoon, do not eat for 6 hours before your test.
4. You may take your morning medications with small sips of water.
5. If you are diabetic, please bring your insulin with you.
6. Please bring a list of your allergies and medications.
7. You will not be able to drive for 24 hours after the procedure because the medication will make you sleepy. Plan to have someone else drive you home following the procedure.
8. If you are on Coumadin, you will be instructed to have a Protime drawn 3 – 5 days prior to the procedure.
9. The Care Group nurse will call you the day before your test to review these instructions and answer questions you may have.

