Dobutamine Stress Echocardiogram

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An appointment has been made for you by

Dr. _____ to have a Dobutamine Stress Echocardiogram at Hammond-Henry Hospital on _____ at _____ am / pm.

Park in the North parking lot. Enter through the main entrance. If you are unable to make this appointment, notify the Cardiac Department at 309-944-9153.

Introduction

This test is performed to provide diagnostic information about the coronary arteries that supply the heart muscles with blood. The test is done by combining a drug-induced stress test with an ultrasound study of the heart. Your doctor will use the information obtained from this testing to make an accurate diagnosis and develop the best treatment plan for you.

Preparation

- Do not eat or drink for 2 hours before your test.
- No stimulants, such as smoking, after midnight the day before your test.
- Do not drink caffeine—containing beverages (coffee, tea, cola drinks or chocolate) after midnight the day before your test.
- If you currently take heart medications, check with your doctor. He or she may ask you to stop taking certain medications prior to your test.
- Wear comfortable two-piece clothing.

Procedure

Your chest will be prepared for electrode attachment. This consists of rubbing the ten electrodes sites with gauze and shaving, if necessary. Lead wires will be attached to each electrode. A blood pressure cuff will be placed on your arm. An intravenous (I.V.) line will be placed in your hand or arm.

A resting echocardiogram (ECG) will be obtained while you lie on a hospital cart (on rare occasions, sufficient images may not be obtained and an alternate test may be required). To improve the quality of your ECG pictures, a gel will be applied to your chest as the technician obtains pictures using a transducer. This transducer is moved across the left side of your heart to obtain sonogram pictures of your heard at rest.

You will then be given an infusion of Dobutamine I.V. to increase your heart rate as with exercise. You will be monitored with the use of ECG's to watch your heart rate, rhythm and blood pressure continuously during the test. As your heart rate increases, the technician will continue to image your heart through ultrasound. A cardiologist will be present at this time. When you reach your target heart rate, if you have ECG changes or experience symptoms, your doctor will then turn off the I.V. Dobutamine infusion.

As your heart rate decreases to its resting rate, a technician will continue to image your heart through ultrasound.

Please allow 2 hours for the test. Feel free to ask any questions you may have regarding the procedures.

Cardiac Services Provided at Hammond-Henry Hospital

- Echocardiogram
- Dubutamine Stress Echocardiogram
- Stress Echocardiogram
- Transesophageal Echocardiogram (TEE)
- Holter Monitoring
- Event Monitoring
- Routine Stress Test
- Nuclear Stress Testing

Hammond-Henry HOSPITAL

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A Patient's Guide to Dobutamine Stress Echocardiogram

Hammond-Henry HOSPITAL
Here for you.