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INSTRUCTIONS AND INFORMATION FOR TRANS-ESOPHAGEAL ECHOCARDIOGRAM

Your procedure is scheduled at:

Carroll Hospital Center at: _____ am / pm Date: _____

Please arrive at the Registration Department of the hospital at least 90 minutes before your procedure. Best way to reach Registration Department is via Main Entrance, and ask for directions.

- Lab tests ordered MUST be obtained 5 business days prior to your procedure.
- Please do NOT eat or drink after midnight prior to the test.
- You may take your normal medications with small amount of water (less than 6 ounces) at least 6 hours prior to the test or hold until the test is complete.
- On the day of test: Do NOT take your diabetes medications and Insulin until the test is finished.
- Please bring all your medications with you.
- Please do NOT smoke for at least 6 hours prior to the test.
- Please bring any government issued ID, insurance card(s), and co-payments if required by your insurance policy.
- Entire visit may last up to 5 hours.
- You will need someone to drive you to the hospital and back to home.
- You are not allowed to operate any motorized vehicles for minimum of 24 hours post-test.

Why is Trans-Esophageal Echocardiogram done?

To evaluate for any congenital defects, heart valve disease, or heart muscle disease.

To evaluate for blood clots or infections in the heart.

To evaluate if artificial valve(s) is/are functioning normally.

What happens before and after the test?

1. You will be monitored by EKG, blood oxygen levels, and blood pressure.
2. An IV line will be placed to administer sedation and IV fluids since you are fasting.
3. Your dentures or false teeth will be removed and held at your bedside.
4. You will be asked to gargle liquid anesthetic agent to numb your throat.
5. Anesthetic spray will be used to assure entire throat is numb for your comfort.
6. IV sedation medicine will be administered until you are in "twilight zone" and possibly asleep.
7. Ultrasound probe will be placed in your mouth and you will be asked to swallow which may cause gagging sensation. This sensation will pass once probe passes below the throat.
8. Pictures will be taken by probe for 10-20 minutes, once complete, probe will be removed.
9. You will not be able to eat or drink until anesthetics and sedation medications wear off.
10. You will be observed for at least 1 hour post-test and possibly more

