

THORACIC and CARDIOVASCULAR INSTITUTE, PC

Dear Patient,

Your physician has recommended that you have a **Transesophageal Echocardiogram (TEE)**.

The heart is a four-chambered hollow organ, It has four valves: an inlet and outlet valve for each of the two pumping chambers. Transesophageal echocardiography allows the close observation of the heart chambers, valves and aorta.

You TEE will be preformed by a cardiologist, assisted by a cardiac sonographer and a qualified nurse. You will be sedated and monitored throughout the procedure. The physician will place a flexible tube into your esophagus (food tube) by way of your mouth. Sound waves are bounced off the structures of your heart and images are recorded on videotape and with photographs. The tests will take approximately 1 hour. A report will be sent to your doctor.

When the test has been completed the doctor will remove the tube. The nurse will remove any monitoring equipment. Your throat will be numb for approximately 1-2 hours. After that period of time you may resume your usual diet, starting with water.

You should report to the nearest emergency department for severe throat pain, chest pain, shortness of breath, vomiting or bleeding after your procedure.

LOCATION

_____ **Ingham Regional Medical Center**, 405 W. Greenlawn Avenue.

Date _____ Time _____

Please report to the Heart Station on the 2nd floor of the hospital at _____

You may not have anything to eat or drink for at least six hours prior to the exam.

_____ **Sparrow Health Systems**, 1215 E. Michigan Ave.

Date _____ Time _____

Please report to the Heart Station on the 2nd floor of the hospital at _____

You may not have anything to eat or drink for at least eight hours prior to the exam.

Special Instruction for the Day of the Procedure

1. Your routine medications should be taken with a small sip of water.
2. You will need to have someone drive you to the hospital, wait in the waiting room while the procedure is being done and drive you home after the procedure is completed.

If you have any questions, please call (517) 483-7551.