

Appointment Date: _____

Time: _____

LOCATION: Aultman Deuble Heart & Vascular Hospital: 2600 6th St. SW, Canton
Please enter from Bedford Ave. SW

DEPARTMENT: Aultman Heart Lab

SUMMARY OF THE EXAM

A myocardial biopsy, also known as a heart or cardiac biopsy, is a diagnostic procedure that is performed to examine the heart muscle to detect heart disease.

This procedure looks for disease or damage in the heart muscle. Following are a few clinical disorders that may require a cardiac biopsy to help with diagnosis:

- Myocarditis
- Sarcoidosis
- Amyloidosis

WHAT TO EXPECT

Myocardial biopsy is done through a catheter that is threaded into your heart (cardiac catheterization). The procedure will take place in a hospital cardiac diagnostics laboratory. To have the procedure:

- You will lie flat on a stretcher or table while the test is being done.
- The skin is scrubbed and a local numbing medicine (anesthetic) is given.
- The health care provider inserts a thin tube (catheter) through a vein.
- The catheter is most often placed through a vein in the neck and then carefully threaded into the heart. The doctor will use moving X-ray images (fluoroscopy) or echocardiography (ultrasound) to guide the catheter to the correct area.
- Once the catheter is in position, a special device with small jaws on the tip is used to remove small pieces of tissue from the heart muscle.

It is a safe procedure and very rarely patients may have life threatening complications:

- Bleeding from the access site.
- Perforation of the heart (rare and life threatening and requires immediate attention).
- Rhythm disturbances.

INSTRUCTIONS

Do not to eat or drink anything for 6 to 8 hours before the test. Most often, you will be admitted the morning of the procedure, but in some cases, you may need to be admitted the night before.

If you take a blood thinner your provider will give you instructions on when to hold and resume these medications, but typically are held for 2 days prior to the procedure.

LENGTH OF EXAM

The procedure typically takes up to half an hour.

AFTER THE EXAM

Please call your health care provider if you do not receive your results within 2 weeks.

QUESTIONS PRIOR TO YOUR TEST

Call 330-639-2623 weekdays between 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. for any questions about your test.

SCHEDULING AND REGISTRATION: Pre-registration is required for an accurate medical record and proper billing. You may be contacted by a patient access representative if we need any information. If you have questions or need to schedule or reschedule your exam, please call 330-363-6288 or 1-800-837-0440 Monday - Friday between 7 a.m. and 6 p.m. All exams require a written order from your physician.

HOSPITAL PARKING

Free visitor parking is available in Lot 3 across from the Bedford building; enter from Sixth Street. Valet parking is available at the Seventh Street and Bedford building entrances for a fee - or free if you are a handicapped motorist. Deck parking is available on 7th street for a fee, based on your length of stay.

DIRECTIONS TO THE DEPARTMENT

You may enter Aultman Deuble Heart & Vascular Hospital from the entrance on Bedford Ave. SW. Registration for the vascular lab is located on the first floor of the Bedford building.