

PATENT FORAMEN OVALE (PFO) REPAIR



Appointment Date: _____

WHAT TIME SHOULD I ARRIVE?

The Heart Lab Staff will call you between 2 – 4 p.m. the day prior to your test with your arrival time. The approximate time of your procedure is not known until the day before your test. If you will not be available at that time to receive the call, or if you don't get a call by 4 p.m., please call to confirm your arrival time.

- Heart Cath Lab: 330-363-4230
- Ambulatory Cardiac Unit: 330-363-5016 (if no answer in Heart Lab)
- Please use the Bedford (6th Street) entrance on arrival to the hospital. The visitor lot on 6th Street (lot 3) is the closest parking

INSTRUCTIONS:

- Please review the written information given to you prior to coming to the hospital.
- You will be scheduled for a pretest appointment for your pre-admission testing.
- Do not eat or drink anything except for sips of water with your medication(s) after 12 midnight the night before your procedure.
- Please bring all your medications to the hospital the day of your procedure. They will be sent home with you. **You will not be permitted** to take medications brought in from home while you are in the hospital.
- If you are allergic to shellfish, iodine or X-ray dye, please tell the staff.
- Other instructions _____

Medication Instructions: Your doctor office or nurse coordinator will give you instructions about what medications to take (or not take) before your procedure.

LOCATION: Ambulatory Cardiac Unit, located in Aultman Heart and Vascular Center.

SUMMARY OF THE PROCEDURE:

A patent foramen ovale (PFO) is a hole in the heart that didn't close the way it should have after birth. It is very common and doesn't cause any problem. PFO closure can be done without performing open-heart surgery.

WHAT TO EXPECT:

You will be given medications to help you relax and keep you comfortable. The repair is done through a catheter (tube) placed in the femoral (groin) vein. Once in the heart, the catheter is guided through the atrial septal wall, and one disc (left atrial) is opened and pulled into place. Once this occurs, the second disc (right atrial) is opened and inserted into the septal wall.

WHAT TO BRING TO THE HOSPITAL

- This packet of information.
- A copy of your living will or durable power of attorney for health care (advanced directives) if you have one.
- Any toiletry items you would like.
- Bring all your current medications. **You will not be permitted** to take your home medications while in the hospital, but the nurses need the names(s) and dosage(s) of each medication.
- Please **do not bring valuables** to the hospital such as purse, wallet, jewelry, money, credit cards, etc. Bring only your ID and insurance cards.

LENGTH OF THE PROCEDURE: The procedure usually takes an hour. There is also preparation and recovery time, so you may be in the heart lab for several hours before being sent to your room.

AFTER THE PROCEDURE: After the procedure, you will be moved to a cardiac unit to recover. You will remain on complete bed rest with your leg straight for a specified amount of time. Your groin will be checked for bleeding. Your nurse will let you know when you are allowed up.

You will slowly resume your diet and activity as tolerated after the procedure. You will spend a few days in the hospital to recover.

QUESTIONS PRIOR TO THE PROCEDURE: Please call the Specialized Heart and Valve Center at 330-363-0789 with any questions.

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 any questions, please call 330-363-6288 or 1-800-837-0440 Monday – Friday between 7 a.m. and 6 p.m.

DIRECTIONS: Report to the Bedford building, which is adjacent to the main hospital at 6th and Bedford. The Ambulatory Cardiac Unit is in the **Heart and Vascular Center**. Please sign in on the kiosk (iPad) at the desk and have a seat on the left side of the waiting room until you are called.

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