

RIGHT HEART CATHETERIZATION



Appointment Date: _____ **Time:** _____

DEPARTMENT: Ambulatory Cardiac Unit (inside Aultman Heart and Vascular Center)

WHAT TIME SHOULD I ARRIVE?

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

INSTRUCTIONS

- You must have an adult to drive you home after the procedure.**
- Do not have anything to eat or drink after midnight prior to the procedure.**
- Take all medications the night before and morning of your procedure with a sip of water.**
- 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.

SUMMARY OF THE EXAM

The right heart catheterization will measure blood flow, pressures and oxygen levels in parts of the heart and lungs. It is done to:

- Diagnose heart and lung diseases such as heart failure and pulmonary hypertension
- Check how well your heart is working and help guide diagnostic and therapeutic decisions
- Give additional information on top of other heart testing
- Help determine the best treatment for those with heart failure

WHAT TO EXPECT

The doctor will prepare an entry point in either your neck or groin. The doctor makes an opening in the VEIN and threads a long, thin, flexible tube called a catheter. The doctor will then guide the catheter through the vein to your heart which will allow measurements to be taken.

LENGTH OF EXAM: Once in the procedure area, the actual procedure takes about an hour. You will then have at least an hour recovery after the procedure.

AFTER THE EXAM: You will be able to eat or drink after the procedure

QUESTIONS PRIOR TO YOUR TEST

Call the Heart Failure Clinic at 330-454-8076 ext. 1223 or 1229 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 6th Street. Valet parking is available at the 7th 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 (MAIN HOSPITAL)

Heart and Vascular Center (Lot 3 parking is the closest parking) is located on the first floor of the Bedford building. After entering the Bedford lobby, turn to your right and enter the Heart and Vascular Center.