

Appointment Date: _____

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

WHAT TIME SHOULD I ARRIVE?

The Heart Lab staff will call you between 12 and 5p.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 5 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.

INSTRUCTIONS:

- Please review the information provided in your procedure information packet prior to coming to the hospital.
- If you were given an order for lab work, please have it drawn several days before your procedure. Take your order with you. You do not need an appointment for your pre-admission testing.
- You must have someone to drive you home and stay with you overnight after your procedure unless you are admitted to the hospital.
- Do not eat or drink anything except for sips of water with your medication(s) after 12 a.m. midnight the night before your procedure.
- Please bring all your medications to the hospital the day of your procedure, or an updated med list. 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 have a known allergy or have had a previous reaction to X-ray dye, please tell the staff.
- Other instructions _____

Medication Instructions: Your doctor office will give you instructions below:

- Take all your medications the night before and morning of your procedure with a sip of water.
- Take all your medications **except for** the following the night before and morning of your procedure _____

□ Other medication instructions_____.

SUMMARY OF THE PROCEDURE: A pacemaker is a small device with two parts – a generator and wires (leads, or electrodes) – that’s placed under the skin. It is used to control your heartbeat if your heart beats too slowly. The pacemaker generator is usually inserted into the upper chest under the collar bone with a minor surgical procedure. Wires are then inserted into the heart through a blood vessel and attached to the generator. The generator senses if the heart is beating too slow and will send electrical impulses through the wires to your heart to cause it to beat faster when necessary.

Sometimes a special pacemaker with an **“ICD” (implantable cardiac defibrillator)** is used if you are at risk of sudden cardiac arrest. The ICD will sense when the heart is in a serious, life threatening rhythm and can deliver a shock to the heart to restore a normal rhythm.

WHAT TO EXPECT: You may be given medicine to help you relax. You will feel the “bee sting” of medicine injected to numb the skin where the incision will be made. When the area is numb, the doctor will start your procedure.

During the procedure:

- A small incision, approximately 2 inches long, will be made in the upper chest.
- One or two leads (thin wires) will be guided through a vein into the heart.
- The leads will then be connected to the pacemaker, and the doctor will program and test the pacemaker.
- The pacemaker will then be placed into the small incision and the incision will be sewn closed.
- You may be awake or asleep during the procedure.

WHAT TO BRING TO THE HOSPITAL

- This packet of information.
- A copy of your living will or durable power of attorney for healthcare (advance 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 a few hours. After the procedure, you will be admitted to the hospital for an overnight stay.

AFTER THE PROCEDURE: You may eat and drink after the test.

QUESTIONS PRIOR TO TESTING: Please call 330-363-5950 between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m.

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.

SCHEDULING: If you have questions or need to reschedule your procedure, please call the cardiologist office who has scheduled your procedure.

HOSPITAL PARKING

Free visitor parking is available in Lot 3 across from the Bedford Building. Enter from 6th Street. If you need a shuttle to pick you up from the parking lot, please call guest services at (330) 363-0089 between the hours of 7a.m-4:30p.m. Any assistance needed outside of those hours please call security services at (330) 363-6268. Deck parking is available on 7th Street for a fee based on your length of stay.

DIRECTIONS TO THE DEPARTMENT

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. Please sign in on the kiosk (iPad) and have a seat on the left side of the waiting room until you are called.