



CATHETERIZATION LAB PATIENT BROCHURE

The following is some information we hope you find helpful. Additionally, please visit our website, which contains a wealth of information regarding our practice, our physicians, and the procedures we perform.

BEFORE THE PROCEDURE

You are scheduled for an outpatient invasive procedure, which requires that a caregiver stay with you through the overnight hours following your discharge home; you MUST make arrangements for this.

When you are scheduled, you are scheduled for a day - not a time.

Your Doctor's office may give you a lab slip for blood work. It is important that you have your blood drawn at least a day or two before the procedure in order for your doctor to have the results back in time for your procedure.

Your doctor will discuss with you which medications will need to be taken and which ones will need to be held in preparation for your procedure. **PLEASE CALL YOUR DOCTORS OFFICE** if you have any questions concerning your medications. Please be sure to let your doctor know if you are allergic to **IODINE, SHELLFISH or CONTRAST**.

Patient arrival times are scheduled between 6:00 am and 4:00 pm, depending upon the physician's schedule and case load. A member of the cath lab staff will call you the business day prior to your procedure to let you know your appointment time; this is typically done in the early to mid afternoon hours, but may also occur earlier or later in the day.

While every effort will be made to accommodate requests for a specific time, due to the complex nature of certain procedures, this may not always be possible.

You will be required to fast for several hours before your procedure. For those scheduled before noon, you will usually be asked to fast after midnight. For those scheduled after

noon, you may be permitted to have a light breakfast before 8 am on the day of your test. The cath lab team will further advise you on this when they contact you with your arrival time.

It is important that you plan to have someone drive you home after your procedure, as you will not be able to drive yourself. If you are unable to find a driver, let the office know in advance, and a ride may be arranged for you.

DAY OF YOUR PROCEDURE

Upon arrival please report to the second floor of the building at the office of Clearwater Cardiovascular Consultants. Make your way toward the double steel doors that are visible to you as you depart the elevator and depress the doorbell on the right side of the adjacent wall. Have a seat in the lobby, and a member of the cath lab staff will come to greet you.

Patients have the use of a private room with television during their stay.

Please bring with you.....Your ID, INSURANCE CARD, YOUR CURRENT MEDICATION LIST, GLASSES and HEARING AIDS. It is NOT necessary for patients to remove hearing aids or dentures for this procedure. (Patients are encouraged to wear their hearing aids if needed).

Wear loose fitting clothes and shoes that are easy to get on and off. A patient gown will be provided for use during the procedure.

Please leave ALL valuables at home, including watches, jewelry and large sums of cash.

Procedure lengths will vary, depending upon the type of procedure performed. Following the procedure, you will also be “recovered” for a period of time, the length of which varies greatly. For this reason, it is difficult to predict the length of your stay. **Please plan to commit the entire day for your procedure.**

In most cases, you will be able to have cold liquids to drink early on in the recovery period. A light snack will be provided for patients prior to discharge.

Before you go home, your physician will discuss the results of the procedure and next steps with you. Your nurse will review your discharge instructions and provide you with a copy of them.

When your doctor has determined it is safe for you to go home, your driver will bring the car to the circular drive at the entrance/exit of the building. For safety reasons, you will be transported to the vehicle via wheelchair. It is advised that patients go directly home after discharge.

INFORMATION FOR VISITORS

We ask that visitors limit themselves to two at the bedside. There is a larger waiting area that others are welcome to use.

The department is typically very chilly so visitors are encouraged to bring a jacket or small blanket with them for use in the area.

Complimentary coffee and hot tea are available for visitors. Vending machines are located next to the café on the ground floor.

The facility is located within the Cheek-Powell Heart & Vascular Pavilion at:

455 Pinellas St., Ste. 280 Clearwater, FL 33756

To reach the Cath Lab department, call: (727) 445-1911 Ext. 260

