

Getting Your TTE Test

(Transthoracic Echocardiogram)

What is a TTE test?

The TTE test helps your doctor know how well your heart is working. The test will take from 25 minutes to 1 hour.

The TTE test shows:

- The size of your heart
- How thick your heart muscle is
- How well your heart is pumping
- If your heart valve is narrow or leaking

This test also checks for:

- Fluid around the heart
- Blood clots
- Masses inside the heart
- Holes between the heart chambers

What Happens During the Test

- We will ask you to undress from the waist up. We will cover you with a gown or sheet. We have blankets if you are cold.
- You will lie on a hospital bed or exam table. We will place small sticky patches and wires (called electrodes) on your chest and shoulders. These measure your heart's electrical activity.
- We will check your blood pressure.
- We will put gel on your chest. We will use a probe to move the gel around your chest. This creates pictures of your heart and valves on a computer screen.



On the Day of Your Test

- You can eat or drink before this test.
- Please come 30 minutes before your test. Come to the Diagnostic Center on the 2nd floor of the hospital.
- If you need to cancel your test, please call 272-2403.
- You may need to make a co-pay for this test.

**Be sure to come
30 minutes early!**

Questions? Call Us!

Heart Station
Diagnostic Center, 2nd Floor – South Tower
Phone: 505-272-2403 7:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.
After 5:30 p.m. call 272-2111. Ask for the
“Cardiology Fellow” on call.

In case of an emergency, call 911.



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