

PREPARING FOR CARDIAC CATHETERIZATION

Dear Patient:

You have been scheduled for a Cardiac Catheterization on:

PRE-CATHETERIZATION ASSESSMENT

Your pre-catheterization assessment has been arranged by your cardiologist.

IF YOU ARE CURRENTLY ON COUMADIN, YOU SHOULD STOP YOUR CURRENT DOSAGE 3 DAYS PRIOR TO YOUR DATE OF PROCEDURE. LAST DOSAGE_____

PRE-PROCEDURE INSTRUCTIONS

Your arrival time on the day of your procedure will not be determined until the business afternoon prior to the procedure. **PLEASE CALL 732-7226 BETWEEN 12 p.m. and 2 p.m. THE DAY PRIOR TO ADMISSION FOR YOUR TIME. PLEASE NOTE THIS IS NOT THE TIME THE CATH WILL START.**

Please note: There is a small chance due to some schedule restraints of the Cardiac Cath Lab that may require us to call you with a different arrival time.

ILLNESS

If you develop a cold (cough, fever) or any other illness before your procedure, please notify your physician immediately.

PRIOR TO ARRIVAL / DAY OF PROCEDURE INSTRUCTIONS

Before leaving home:

- Do not eat or drink anything, i.e. water, gum, lifesavers, after midnight the night prior to your procedure. Although you will be fasting, medications **[EXCEPT THOSE INDICATED]** Should be taken with a SMALL amount of water. Your procedure will be CANCELED if you ingest anything other than medication.

- You may brush your teeth and gargle.
- If you wear contact lenses, please leave them at home and wear glasses.
- Do not bring any valuables, i.e. jewelry, checkbook, or more than \$10.00.
- Bring a small overnight bag.

DAY OF PROCEDURE / UPON ARRIVAL

Please report to the Admitting Office located at 75 Francis Street at your assigned time. From there you will be escorted to the CATH Lab Reception area. Please wait there. **DUE TO EMERGENCIES, WE CAN NEVER GUARANTEE A PROCEDURE TIME, BUT WE DO STAGGER ARRIVAL TIMES IN ORDER TO MINIMIZE THE TIME THAT YOU WILL HAVE TO WAIT. However, you may consider bringing a book.**

POST PROCEDURE

Some patients stay overnight, while others may be discharged to home on the day of the procedure. However, since this is a medical decision that is determined after the procedure, **you should be prepared for either event.** Therefore, every patient must have a ride home available if needed. Unless medically necessary, your insurance will not cover an overnight stay. An unescorted taxi ride will not suffice. You also must have someone who will stay with you and care for you at home that night.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to call Monday through Friday between 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Sincerely,

Marilyn Horan
617-732-7226