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PATIENT EDUCATION FORM

Whether you are experiencing symptoms of heart disease or are at risk for developing heart disease, your doctor may recommend one of several diagnostic tests. Here are some of the more common heart and cardiac diagnostic testing options Dearborn Cardiology provides.

Electrocardiography

EKG (Electrocardiography) is the process of recording the electrical activity of the heart over a period of time using electrodes placed on the skin. These electrodes detect the tiny electrical changes on the skin that arise from the heart muscle's ElectroPhysiologic pattern of depolarizing and repolarizing during each heartbeat. It is a very commonly performed cardiology test.

Holter Monitor

Holter monitor is a battery-operated portable device that measures and tape record your heart's activity (ECG) continuously for 24 to 48 hours or longer depending on the type of monitoring used. The device is the size of a small camera. It has wires with silver dollar-sized electrodes that attach to your skin.

Echocardiogram

An echocardiogram is a test that uses ultrasound to measure heart muscle and heart valves.

Stress Echocardiogram

This is an echocardiogram that is performed while the person exercises on a treadmill or stationary bicycle. This test can be used to visualize the motion of the heart's walls and pumping action when the heart is stressed. It may reveal a lack of blood flow that isn't always apparent on other heart tests. The echocardiogram is performed just prior and just after the exercise.



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Dobutamine Stress Echocardiogram

This is another form of stress echocardiogram. However, instead of exercising to stress the heart, the stress is obtained by giving a drug that stimulates the heart and makes it "think" it is exercising. The test is used to evaluate your heart and valve function when you are unable to exercise on a treadmill or stationary bike. It is also used to determine how well your heart tolerates activity and your likelihood of having coronary artery disease (blocked arteries) and evaluates the effectiveness of your cardiac treatment plan.

Treadmill Stress Test

An exercise stress test usually involves walking on a treadmill while your heart rhythm, blood pressure and breathing are monitored. Your doctor may recommend an exercise stress test if he or she suspects you have coronary artery disease or irregular heart rhythm (arrhythmia).

Cardiolite Stress Test

A Cardiolite stress test is a diagnostic exam used to evaluate the supply of blood to your heart muscle. Your heart receives blood from the coronary arteries. If these arteries become partially blocked or narrowed, your heart will not receive the blood that it needs for proper function. This test may be useful in detecting the presence and significance of coronary artery disease.

Lexiscan Stress Test

Lexiscan stress test is a medicine that is used during a nuclear heart stress test to dilate, or open up, the arteries. All normal arteries can able to do that. But if you have a blocked artery, it cannot dilate. When doctors order cardiac imaging tests, they are looking for the relative lack of blood flow.



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ABI Test

ABI The ankle-brachial pressure index (ABPI) or ankle-brachial index (ABI) is the ratio of the blood pressure at the ankle to the blood pressure in the upper arm (brachium). Compared to the arm, lower blood pressure in the leg is an indication of blocked arteries due to peripheral artery disease (PAD).

Lower Extremity Arterial Duplex

Lower extremity arterial duplex is an ultrasound evaluation of the Blood-flow to the arteries in the legs and is used to detect and measure the amount of narrowing of the arteries.

Lower Extremity Venous Duplex

Lower Extremity Venous duplex is a procedure that uses sound waves to "see" inside your body. This procedure is performed to evaluate symptoms including leg pain or swelling, excessive varicose veins, shortness of breath, or suspected blood clots in your legs and/or lungs.

Renal Duplex

Renal Duplex is Color flow Doppler of kidney and renal artery. The renal arteries provide blood flow to the kidneys. Renal artery disease, including narrowing (stenosis) due to atherosclerosis, can result in reduced blood-flow to the kidney. This can cause hypertension (high blood pressure).

Aortic Duplex

Aortic Duplex; The abdominal aortic duplex exam is a non-invasive exam that uses High Frequency sound waves to produce images of the aorta. The exam is useful for detecting abnormalities in the artery and provides blood flow measurements. The exam is painless and typically takes less than an hour to complete.



DEARBORN
CARDIOLOGY

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Carotid Duplex

Carotid duplex is an ultrasound test that shows how well blood is flowing through the carotid arteries. The carotid arteries are located in the neck. They supply blood directly to the brain. Ultrasound is a painless method that uses sound waves to create images of the inside of the body.