

CASCADE HEART



INFORM CONSENT FOR DOBUTAMINE STRESS ECHO STUDY

Dobutamine stress echo is performed to evaluate heart wall motion in response to stress. This test combines the use of pharmacologic agents (Dobutamine and possibly Atropine given intravenously to increase heart rate and contractility) and the use of ultrasound to evaluate the wall motion of the heart.

The nurse will prepare the patient for the test by first obtaining a finger-stick blood test to rule out anemia and then by placing an Intravenous line (IV) in the patient's arm or hand. The patient will then be prepped for the EKG monitoring (with males chests will be shaved as needed). Baseline EKG and blood pressure will be recorded.

The ultrasound sonographer will obtain resting ultrasound of the heart, followed by additional EKG's. When all baseline tests are acquired and determined acceptable, a slow infusion of Dobutamine will be started. The rate of the infusion will be increased at intervals to increase the heart rate, just as it would if the patient walked on a treadmill. Atropine may be administered if the heart rate does not increase with the recommended dose of Dobutamine. The physician will be continually monitoring the patient's EKG and blood pressure during the IV infusion. Ultrasound images may be obtained intermittently.

When the peak heart rate is achieved, the Dobutamine infusion will be discontinued and the ultrasound images will again be obtained. The patient will be monitored until heart rate and blood pressure return to baseline levels. Metoprolol may be administered IV to aid in slowing heart rate if needed.

There are potential risks associated with any medical treatment. Although it is impossible to list them all, some of the possible risks, complications and side effects of this procedure could include but are not limited to the following;

Irregular heart beats, anxiousness, changes in blood pressure and very rarely heart damage or sudden death.

Occasionally, in difficult to image patients, a contrast solution, Optison, is given intravenously in order to obtain the optimum ultrasound images. This contrast solution is safe, short-acting, and usually well-tolerated with minimal side effects. Inform your physician or health care provider if you have an allergy to human blood products, if you may be pregnant or if you are nursing as infant.

My signature certifies that I have read or had read to me the contents of this form. I agree to follow any patient instructions related to this procedure. I understand the potential risks, complications and side effects involved with any medical treatment and have decided to proceed with this procedure. I declare that I have had the opportunity to ask questions and all of my questions have been answered to my satisfaction.

PATIENT: _____ DATE: _____

INTERPRETER: _____

WITNESS: _____

11/03