



MYOCARDIAL PERFUSION IMAGING

Your physician has scheduled you for a myocardial perfusion study. This study evaluates how well blood flow is getting through the coronary arteries (arteries in your heart) and supplying the actual heart muscle.

Myocardial Perfusion Imaging is a lengthy exam often lasting up to four hours. It consists of two parts. Prior to the second part of the exam, the risks of stressing your heart will be explained to you. You will be asked to sign a consent form giving permission for the "stress" portion of the exam to be performed.

Part 1: In order to evaluate your heart, it is necessary to place EKG electrodes on your chest and to insert an IV (intravenous) catheter. The location of the IV catheter will vary depending on the specific test. A radioactive tracer will be injected through the IV that will allow us to image your heart while it is resting (not under stress). Collecting the images will take approximately 20 minutes.

Part 2: The second part of the test involves stressing your heart. This may be done by physical exercise on a treadmill, or by pharmacologic means (medicine). When the peak level of stress is achieved, the radioactive tracer will be injected through the IV. The tracer must circulate through your bloodstream for a period of time before images are taken. This time varies by patient. Collecting the images will take approximately 20 minutes.

Depending on the specific study, the two parts may be done in one day, but may require a second day in some cases.

PATIENT PREPARATION

1. DO NOT drink any caffeine for eight (8) hours prior to your test. This includes coffee (regular and decaf), tea, most sodas and chocolate.
2. DO NOT eat or drink anything but water for 4 hours prior to the test.
3. Bring comfortable clothes and shoes - you may be exercising.
4. Bring all of your prescribed medications or a list of them.
5. It is often preferred to hold certain medications prior to your study. Please discuss this with your doctor first. Do not stop your medications without your doctor's advice.
6. The test will last approximately **3-4 hours**.
7. Check in at the Heart Center of Excellence, Cardiology Department, 4th Floor.

APPOINTMENT:

DATE _____

TIME _____

COOPER CLINIC, P.A.
Cardiology Department
Centers of Excellence

7001 Rogers Avenue, 4th floor
Fort Smith, AR 72903

479.274.4851
800.333.1305
www.cooperclinic.com