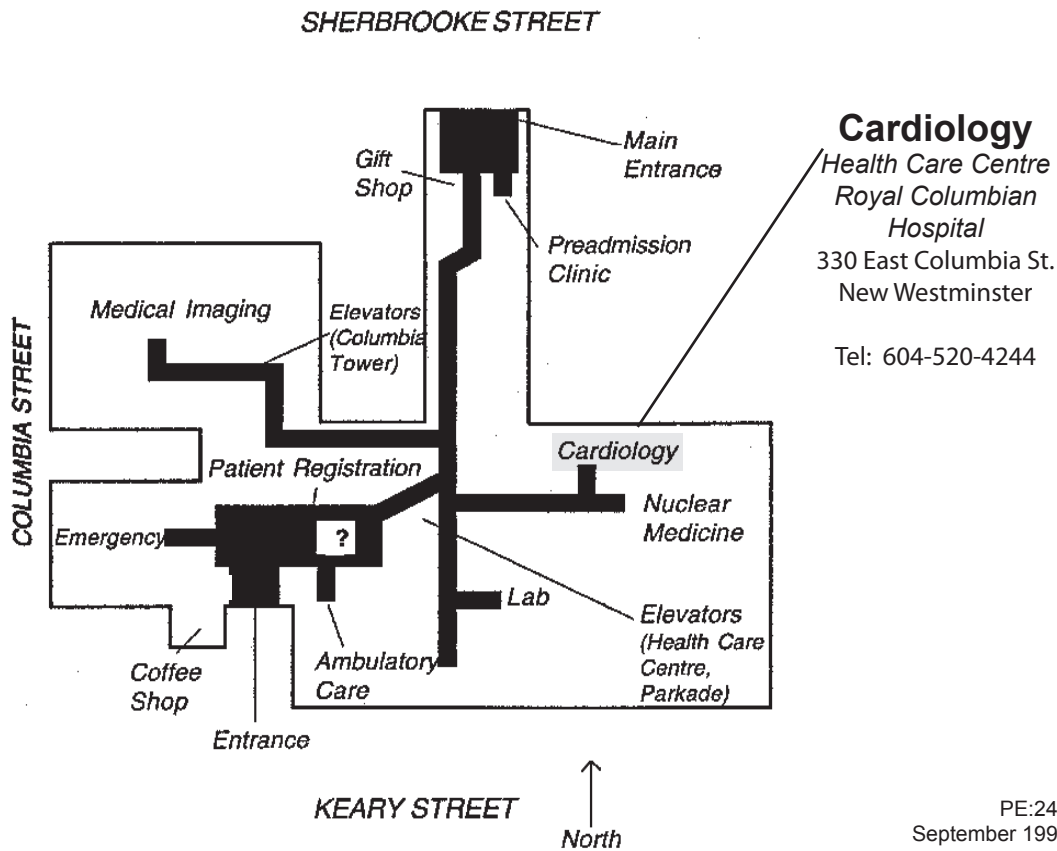


Notes and Questions



Transesophageal Echocardiogram

A Patient Information Guide



*Outpatients:
Report to Patient Registration
15 minutes prior to your ap-
pointment time.*

TEE: What Is It?

This procedure has been arranged in order to provide further detail of the structure and function of the heart.

Before You Arrive

Please do not eat or drink after midnight, the night before the study is performed. If the study is booked in the afternoon, you may have a light breakfast (toast, juice) before 8:00 a.m.

Arrive with a responsible adult who can drive you home following the study. In most cases, the study is done with sedation.

During the Procedure

While under sedation, an ultrasound tube is passed into the esophagus in order to visualize the heart.

Following The Procedure

If sedation is given:

- do not drive for the remainder of the day
- do not operate machinery
- you may feel sleepy on and off during the day
- a responsible person should stay with you at all times for the first 24 hours

The back of your throat has been sprayed with an anaesthetic.

- the effect of this will pass
 - it may make swallowing somewhat difficult for a short period of time. We recommend that you do not eat or drink for one hour following the procedure. At that time, if water is tolerated, you may eat.
 - There may be mild discomfort at the back of your throat for a few hours.
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Are There Any Risks?

There is minimal risk, which will be discussed with you prior to the procedure.

When To Call Your Doctor:

If you experience (or the responsible person staying with you) notices any of the following symptoms, **contact your doctor immediately or return to the nearest Emergency Department:**

- excessive drowsiness (or if someone is unable to wake you)
 - breathing difficulties
 - skin is pale and/or bluish colouring to lips, fingers or toes
 - pain is getting worse and not helped by medication
 - bleeding or swelling is getting worse in the area where the procedure was done
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