



Examination Information

Transesophageal Echocardiography (TEE)

Introduction

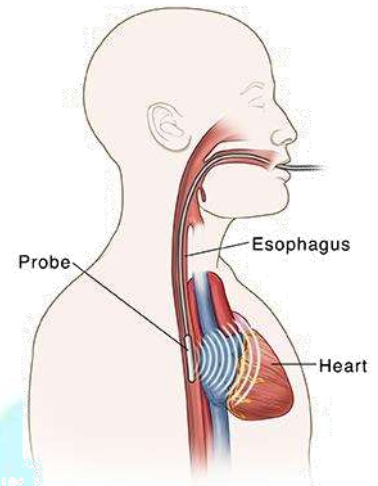
Transesophageal Echocardiography (TEE) is used to study the structure and function of the heart through imaging. It is performed through introducing an ultrasound probe of 1cm in diameter through the mouth into the oesophagus. However, clients with swallowing difficulty, esophageal problems or neck surgery are not considered for this examination.

Outcomes

TEE helps doctors to find problem(s) in your heart's structure and function. This examination also helps to diagnosis the disease of heart.

Procedures

1. Your vital signs are continuously monitored during the examination.
2. The examination is performed under local anaesthesia. Low dose intravenous sedation may be given.
3. You lie in left lateral position.
4. The probe is inserted through your mouth into the esophagus. You may be asked to swallow to help passing the probe.
5. The pictures of the heart are shown on a video screen.
6. The study takes around 10-15 minutes. Please relax during the examination.
7. Dribbling out of saliva is expected and will be taken care of. To prevent aspiration, do not attempt swallowing action unless you are asked to do so.
8. After the examination, the probe is slowly removed.



Source:
<https://mychart.geisinger.org/staywel/html/Inpatient/3,82071.html>

Possible Risks and Complications

1. Bleeding
2. Esophageal perforation
3. Significant arrhythmias
4. Congestive heart failure
5. Aspiration

** The risks listed above are in general terms and the possibility of complications is not exhaustive. Please understand that even though all examinations are carried out with utmost professionalism and care, this does not rule out the possibility of complications arising.

Pre-examination Preparations

1. The procedures and possible complications will be explained by the doctor and a consent form must be signed prior to the examination.
2. Please inform the doctor and nurse all your past medical history, previous surgical operations, current medication and any complication with drug or anaesthesia. Please inform doctor if you are taking medications that affect blood coagulation such as Aspirin, Warfarin, Xarelto or Pradaxa, nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID) such as ibuprofen, naproxen and Chinese medication.
3. No food or drink six hours before the examination.
4. The examination is usually performed as an outpatient procedure.
5. Please inform the doctor for any history of swallowing difficulty and radiation therapy to chest or neck region.
6. Please inform the doctor if you have loose teeth.
7. You are advised to accompany by relatives or friends.
8. Please change into surgical gown after taking off all clothing including undergarments, dentures, jewellery and contact lenses.
9. Please empty your bladder before the examination.

Post-examination Instructions

1. Food and drinks should be avoided for 1 hour to prevent risk of aspiration.
2. Mild sore throat or blood-stained saliva is common for a few days.
3. Do not take sedative drug, drink any alcoholic beverage, drive a car or control any machine within 24 hours of examination.
4. Immediately consult your doctor or return to hospital for professional attention in the event of palpitation, massive bleeding, breathing or swallowing difficulty, shivering, high fever over 38°C or 100°F, or any other unusual symptoms.
5. Any follow-up consultations should be attended as scheduled.

Should there be any enquiries or concerns, please consult the attending doctor.

Under the professional care of the doctor, you will gradually recover. We wish you all the best during your treatment and recovery.

If you have any questions after reading the entire leaflet, please write them down in the spaces provided in order for the doctor to further follow-up.

Compiled by Union Hospital Operating Theatre (OT) Governance Committee

The above information is for reference only, please enquire your physician for details
Our Hospital reserves the RIGHT to amend any information in this leaflet without prior notification