

Dean & St. Mary's Cardiac Center

Thank you for choosing St. Mary's for your health care. Our goal is to make your stay as pleasant and comfortable as possible. Valet parking is available at our main entrance on Brooks Street. This service is available from 5 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily. The valet attendant will park your vehicle and retrieve it when you are ready to leave.

Defibrillator Threshold (DFT) or Non-Invasive Electrophysiology (EP) Study

Be at the Hospital Patient Registration Desk, A Level,

on: _____

(day/date)

(time)

Call 608-258-6856 If:

- You cannot make it to your procedure.
- You have questions or concerns about the procedure.

What is it?

A defibrillator threshold shows if your defibrillator settings are working for you.

Why do you need a DFT?

A DFT may be performed for any of the following reasons:

- ♥ Your heart medications were changed.
- ♥ You are experiencing problems with your defibrillator.
- ♥ Changes were found with your defibrillator during your routine check at the device clinic.

Before your procedure:

- ♥ Arrange to have someone drive you to and from the hospital.
- ♥ Come prepared to tell us of any preferences you have in your care, including food, family visitation, and prayer.

The day before your procedure:

- ♥ You will receive a call the day before with the time of arrival and instructions.
- ♥ Do not eat or drink anything after midnight or as instructed during your pre-procedure phone call.
- ♥ Continue to take your medication as directed, including your blood thinner.

Day of your procedure:

- ♥ Do not take any medication including vitamins, herbals, and/or food supplements **unless you are told differently** by your physician.
- ♥ Bring all your medications including any over- the- counter medications, inhalers, herbs, etc., that you are presently taking, in their **original** container with you. This will help update your records.
- ♥ Bring your Bipap/Cpap machine if you have one.
- ♥ Bring your insurance cards, your Advanced Directives, Durable Power of Attorney for Health Care, and/or Living Will, if you have one completed.

Note: St. Mary's offers a free public seminar every Monday at 12:30 p.m. to learn about and fill out an Advanced Directives form. No registration is necessary, check at the Information Desk for the room location.

- ♥ Leave all valuables at home including rings, watches and money.
- ♥ After you register, you will be sent to the Surgery and Procedure Center.

Preparing for your procedure:

- ♥ You will change into a hospital gown.
- ♥ A nurse will interview you and place an intravenous (IV) line in your arm.
- ♥ You will sign a consent form for the procedure.

During your procedure

- ♥ Sticky patches will be applied to your chest and back. Any hair will be clipped before placing the patches.
- ♥ You will be given oxygen.
- ♥ You will not feel pain because you will be given a medication (sedative), which will make you sleepy.
- ♥ Your doctor will put your heart into an abnormal beat. Your defibrillator will then deliver a shock to your heart.

- ♥ The doctor will decide if your settings need to be changed.

After Your Procedure

- ♥ Once you are fully awake you will be able to eat and drink.
- ♥ You will be able to go home after the sedation wears off and you are steady on your feet. This usually takes two to four hours.
- ♥ Your doctor will inform you if any changes were made to your defibrillator settings.
- ♥ You will receive complete instructions from your nurse.

Additional Discharge instructions:

- ♥ Due to the sedation you received:
 - ♥ Do not make any major or legal decisions and do not sign any legal documents for the next 24 hours.
 - ♥ We strongly suggest that another adult stay overnight with you for your comfort and safety.
 - ♥ Do not drive or operate hazardous machinery for the next 24 hours.
 - ♥ Do not have any alcohol or take any over-the-counter medications containing alcohol for 24 hours.
- ♥ Relax for the remainder of the day.

Tobacco free campus

For your health, we are a tobacco-free facility and campus. Thank you for not smoking or using tobacco products on hospital grounds.

Other resources available to you at: www.stmarysmadison.com/cardiac

Then Click on “Patient Instructions”.