

Care Gram

Cardioversion

Date of Test: _____ **Test Time:** _____

How the Test Works

A cardioversion is ordered if your heart is in an irregular rhythm called atrial fibrillation. The cardioversion uses a controlled amount of electrical current to return your heart rhythm to a regular rhythm. A trained registered nurse and a Cardiologist perform the test.

Allowing Time

The test usually takes 2 hours. This includes preparation, the test, and recovery.

Preparation

- Do not eat or drink for 4 hours before the test.
- You may take your medications the day of the test with no more than 4 ounces of water.

Registration

Please report directly to the Cardiology Department at your appointment time. It is located on the first floor of Licking Memorial Hospital (LMH).

During a Cardioversion

- An IV will be started.
- You will receive medication to help you sleep for a short time.
- You will have a large pad placed on your back and your chest.
- After you are asleep, a small electric current is given through the pads.

After the Test

- If you develop redness on your chest, you will be given a hydrocortisone ointment that will help with the reddened areas.
- You will need to have someone drive you home from the Hospital.
- You may return to your normal activities the next day unless instructed differently.

Finding Out the Results

You will know the results of the test before you leave. You will also be given a follow-up appointment time before you leave.

Appointment Reminder

Thank you for allowing the Cardiology staff at LMH to serve you. Remember, you have an important role in making your test a success. If you have any questions about your test, please call (740) 348-4177.

This Care Gram is for information purposes only. It may become out-of-date over time. Ask a doctor or a healthcare professional about your specific condition.



**Licking Memorial
Health Systems**

1320 West Main Street • Newark, OH 43055
(740) 348-4000 • www.LMHealth.org

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