

Care Gram

Cardioversion

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

What Is a Cardioversion?

Cardioversion is used if you have an irregular heart rhythm called atrial fibrillation or atrial flutter. During cardioversion, a controlled amount of electrical current is given to return your heart rhythm to a regular rhythm. The test is performed by a trained registered nurse and a cardiologist.

Cardioversion usually takes 2 hours. This includes the preparation, test and recovery. If you have any questions about your test, please call (220) 564-4177.

How Do I Prepare for a Cardioversion?

- Do not eat or drink for 6-8 hours before the test.
- Take your medications on the day of the test with no more than 4 ounces of water.
- Bring someone with you to drive you home after the test.

How Do I Register for a Cardioversion?

Please report directly to the Cardiology Department, located on the Licking Memorial Hospital (LMH) Second Floor at your appointment time.

What Can I Expect 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.

What Should I Do After the Test?

- Use hydrocortisone ointment on any 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.



**Licking Memorial
Health Systems**

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Finding Out the Results

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

Thank you for allowing the LMH Cardiology staff to serve you. Remember, you have an important role in making your test a success.