**WHAT IS IT?** This test is done to evaluate the heart and heart valves, and determine the presence or extent of coronary artery disease in a person who is unable to exercise on a treadmill.

DOBUTAMINE STRESS ECHOCARDIOGRAM

**HOW DOES THIS TEST WORK?** When you arrive for your test the technologist and nurse will obtain your health history, explain the procedure in detail, and answer any questions you may have. Electrodes (adhesive patches) will be placed on your chest to monitor heart rate and rhythm throughout the test. An IV will be started to administer the Dobutamine. This medication causes your heart to react as if you were exercising. Four sets of echocardiographic (heart ultrasound) images will be taken during the test (rest, low stress, peak stress, recovery). An additional medication may be given through the IV line to enhance the echo images.



**PREPARING FOR YOUR TEST:**

* No eating or drinking 2 hrs prior to testing.
* No smoking after midnight prior to testing.
* If you take medications, contact the ordering physician for instructions on taking these prior to the test, and please use small sips of water to take medications.
* No one-piece clothing such as a dress, overalls, or coveralls.

**WHERE DO I GO FOR MY TEST?** 1900 23rd St., Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44223. Come to Entrance 5 in the back of the hospital 15 minutes prior to your scheduled appointment time. Proceed to the **RADIOLOGY** department for registration and testing. Please bring your order, photo ID, all insurance cards, and a list of medications you are currently taking.

**WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?** The test will be read by a cardiologist, and results will be sent to the ordering physician and PCP (if different than the ordering Dr.) within 48 hours; however, it may take additional time to be reviewed and scanned into your record once received by your doctor’s office, so we recommend allowing 4-5 days prior to contacting your doctor for results. If you would like a copy of your test results you can complete a ‘Release of Information’ request when you register, and results will be mailed upon completion of the report.

Thank you for choosing Western Reserve Hospital for your healthcare. We look forward to serving you! Please contact the Cardiovascular Lab with any questions at (330) 971-7426. If you need to cancel your test, please contact Central Scheduling at (330) 971-7496.