



Cardiac Catherization

What is cardiac catherization?

Cardiac catheterization is a minor surgical procedure involving the introduction of specialized catheters into the heart and surrounding vasculatures for the purpose of diagnostic evaluation and therapy interventions associated with cardiovascular-related disorders in children and adults. These disorders can include coronary disease, congenital heart defect, removing blockages and repairing damages.

The cardiac catheterization lab is a sterile environment. Patients change into a gown and are properly prepped for sterilization at the beginning of the exam. Depending on the examination, patients may be required avoid liquids for four to six hours before procedure or after midnight.

Equipment used

The cardiac catheterization lab was installed in 2012 and uses the latest state-of-the-art technology. The Philips Allura is equipped with flat panel detectors with no intensification meaning there is less radiation emitting from the equipment and less radiation for the patient.

Scheduling appointments

A primary care physician will determine if a cardiac catheterization is needed and will help patients schedule an appointment as well as provide details on what to expect. Patients may need prior testing such as blood work, chest x-ray, ECG, echocardiogram or stress test.