

INTRAVENOUS DIPYRIDAMOLE STRESS TEST INFORMATION

NAME: _____

DATE: _____

Your physician has scheduled you for an intravenous Dipyridamole stress test. A pharmacologic stress test using intravenous Dipyridamole (Persantine) will be performed since your physician feels you could not adequately complete an exercise stress test. The purpose of the test is to diagnose possible underlying coronary artery disease or to quantify the extent of known disease.

You will be asked to come to **Shadyside Cardiovascular PLLC, 5750 Centre Avenue, Suite 395** for the test (free valet parking is available at the front entrance). If for any reason you cannot keep your appointment or do not wish to have the test, please call our office (412) 688-6414 **no later than 24 hours before your appointment.** The materials for the test are specifically ordered for each patient 24 hours ahead of time. Do not take anything by mouth except sips of water for at least 3 hours prior to the test. **Do not ingest caffeine (including coffee, tea, colas or chocolate) for at least 12 hours prior to the test. Your physician will advise you whether you should take your medications prior to your test.** Please review the consent form and bring this **unsigned** form with you. The Exercise Laboratory staff will explain the purpose and risks of the test and answer any questions which you might have. You will then be asked to sign the consent form.

Your Dipyridamole stress test will be performed by a physician or designee. A brief history and physical will be performed. The electrocardiogram monitor will be connected and a baseline EKG taken. An intravenous line will be started. Your EKG and blood pressure will be monitored during and after the test. The staff will periodically question you during the test to assess how you are feeling. You may experience chest, throat or jaw discomfort, flushing, headache, shortness of breath or dizziness. These side effects are not uncommon, but are usually well tolerated and short-lived. The Dipyridamole will be given for 4 minutes through the intravenous line. In certain cases, the Dipyridamole infusion may be stopped early, depending on the physician's assessment of any side effects. During the test, the radioisotope will be injected through the intravenous line. After the test, you will go next door to the Nuclear Laboratory and pictures will be taken of your heart. Two sets of images will be obtained (one during stress and one during rest). The entire test requires 3-4 hours including imaging and stress test.