

Cardiac Catheterization



Plan of Hospital Care for

_____ (Child's Name)

Expected Time and Date of Discharge

When someone is in the hospital, it is important for the patient and family to know what to expect and when things will happen. While everyone is unique, there are some aspects of care that we can predict. This Care Journey describes the usual course of care for the above condition or surgery.

DAY ONE: Admission to the Hospital

Time (AM/PM)

_____ **You will be taken to your room in Outpatient Surgery.**

_____ The nurse will check your vital signs (blood pressure, temperature, heart rate, breathing rate). This will take about 30 minutes.

- A nurse practitioner will take a medical history, do a physical exam, and explain the cardiac cath procedure to you, which will take about 30 to 45 minutes.
- A cardiac interventionalist will meet with you and your family (about 15 minutes).
- Then an anesthesiologist will meet with you and your family for about 15 minutes.

_____ **You will be taken to the Catheterization Suite.**

- Most patients are given medicine to breathe in through a mask (anesthesia). The medicine will make you go to sleep. Sometimes, the IV (intravenous line) is started while you are awake and the anesthesia medication is given through the IV.
- If you are given anesthesia through the mask, an IV (intravenous line) will be put into a vein while you are asleep so you can receive medicines and fluids through it.
- Your family will wait in the _____. They will be updated 1½ hours after the procedure starts, then every hour after that.
- On average, the catheterization procedure takes about 3 to 5 hours and may last as long as 8 hours.

_____ **You will be taken to the PACU (Post Anesthesia Care Unit) to recover from the anesthesia.** You will stay there about 45 minutes. Then you will be taken to the Cardiac Step Down unit

After you arrive on the Cardiac floor, you can expect:

_____ You will arrive on the Cardiac floor from PACU.

_____ You will be required to stay in bed (on bed rest) for up to 6 hours after the cardiac cath.

Notes and Questions:

_____ Vital signs (blood pressure, temperature, heart rate, breathing rate) will be checked often. The nurse will:

- Check the pulses in your feet.
- Check all dressings.
- At first you will receive only clear liquids. After you are keeping them down, you may start on solid food as you are able.
- IV fluids will be stopped if you can handle taking fluids by mouth.

_____ **Teaching session:** The nurse will discuss with you the Helping Hand on Cardiac Catheterization and answer any questions you may have.

_____ Vital signs will be checked every 4 hours from now on. The nurse will also:

- Check the pulses in your feet.
- Check all dressings.

_____ You will be on this medication: _____

5 – 6:00pm Dinner (if you are keeping clear liquids down).

_____ Vital signs checked; pulses in feet; all dressings checked.

_____ You will be allowed to sit in a chair and walk around the room (Usually 6 hours after the cardiac cath).

_____ Medication _____

DAY TWO: Discharge to Home

12:00am Vital signs checked; pulses in feet; all dressings checked.

4 – 6:00am Vital signs checked; pulses in feet; all dressings checked.

8 – 9:00am Cardiac catheter dressings will be removed.

_____ Medication _____

_____ Scheduled X-ray

8 – 9:00am Breakfast

_____ The nurse practitioner will come to your room and follow up with post cardiac catheter teaching and answer any questions you may have.

- You will be discharged to home by the Cardiac Care Nurse.
- Transportation will be called to escort you as you leave the hospital in a wheelchair.

