



Adenosine Cardiolite Stress Test

This procedure is done after a set of pictures have been taken with your heart at rest. For patients who are unable to exercise adequately on the treadmill, the drug Adenosine may be given to produce an effect on the heart similar to exercise. During the test, you will be lying on a stretcher. A line of normal saline will be connected to your IV. The drug Adenosine will be infused through your IV. The Adenosine is infused over 6 minutes. Three minutes into this infusion you will be given another injection of Cardiolite and then the Adenosine infusion will continue for another 3 minutes. In some cases the cardiologist will have you perform hand squeezing exercises to help get more accurate test results. You will wait 30 – 90 minutes after this test at which time you will go for another set of pictures.

What is Adenosine?

Adenosine is a pharmacologic stress agent that can be used for coronary vasodilation in patients unable to exercise adequately. The amount of Adenosine you will be given is based on your body weight. Side effects include flushing, chest discomfort, and/or difficulty breathing. Adenosine has a very short half-life (<10 seconds) so any side effects are resolved quickly once the infusion is terminated.