

DECLARATION OF CONSENT FOR TRANSOESOPHAGEAL ECHOCARDIOGRAPHY

Dear Patient,

You have been registered by your doctor for an investigation that is called transoesophageal echocardiography, i.e. an ultrasound scan of the heart via the oesophagus. This is so that your heart and the adjacent large vessels can be investigated close up, allowing a more accurate depiction of the individual structures. To facilitate this, a special ultrasonic probe approximately 1 cm in diameter will be introduced into the oesophagus through the mouth and advanced as far as the stomach. To ensure that this procedure is not unpleasant, you will receive medicinal products in the form of pharyngeal anaesthesia and a mild sedative. When the probe is in position, the most you will feel is a mild sensation of pressure in the throat or thoracic cavity. Pulse, blood pressure and blood oxygen saturation will be measured before, during and after the investigation. You will be able to breathe normally throughout the entire investigation. The ultrasound waves that are emitted and received by the probe produce an ultrasound image of the heart and surrounding vessels that is shown on the ECG monitor.

Before the investigation

You must not drink or eat anything for at least 4 hours before the investigation. However you can take your usual medications as normal with a glass of water.

Investigation sequence

Before the start of the investigation, we will ask you about any swallowing problems, drug allergies, asthma etc., in order to decide what preparations to give you. Then a small plastic cannula will be inserted into an arm vein through which the medications will be infused. The investigation takes place on your left side and lasts approximately 15–20 minutes. To relax you, you will receive an injection of sedative in your vein.

Possible side effects: In rare cases, irritation of the mucous membranes of the throat or oesophagus may occur, or spasm of the larynx, or abnormal heart rhythms that disappear spontaneously. Serious complications are extremely rare.

After the investigation

You may not eat or drink until the numb feeling in the throat has completely disappeared.
Do not drive or operate machinery for at least 8 hours.
Do not sign any legally binding documents or contracts in the 24 hours following the investigation.

Declaration of consent

After receiving this comprehensive explanation, I declare that I agree with the planned investigation. I have had the opportunity to ask questions, and these have been answered to my satisfaction.

Place/date	Signature of patient	Place/Date	Signature of doctor
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