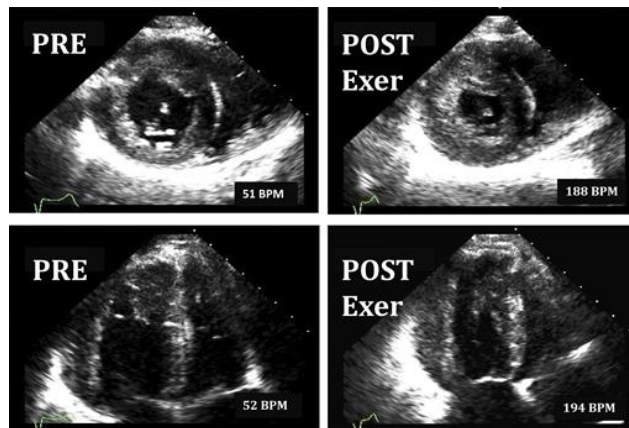
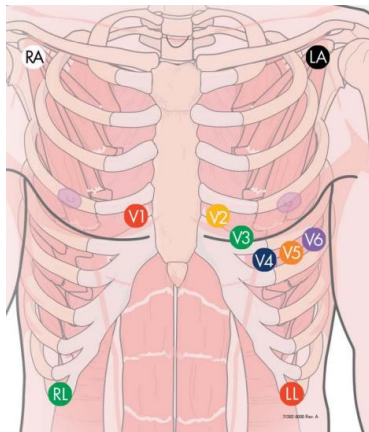




MORRIS HOSPITAL
CARDIAC DIAGNOSTICS
815-705-1170

DOBUTAMINE STRESS ECHO

Prior to testing, the nurse will listen to your heart and lungs. The staff will clean your skin with alcohol and exfoliate it using a mildly abrasive tape. If you have chest hair, we may need to shave your chest prior to preparing your skin. We will place stickers across your chest and abdomen. Wires will attach to those stickers, which allow us to monitor your heart throughout your test. We will also monitor your blood pressure throughout testing. We will also start a small IV so you can receive the medicine to stress your heart. Dobutamine is the medication we will use to stress the heart. This medicine will make your heart beat faster and harder like it does during exercise. We are trying to bring your heart rate up to a certain range that is based on your age. We will discuss your specific goals before your test. The nurse will review the effects of the medicine prior to testing. The cardiac sonographer will take ultrasound images of your heart before and after you exercise.



We start out with a small dose of medication, and every 3 minutes, we increase the dose until we reach your heart rate goal. Once we hit your heart rate goal, the sonographer will take images of your heart. You will be monitored for at least 6 minutes in what we call the recovery period. After you have completed your recovery period, we will remove our monitoring equipment and review post testing instructions. Usually your IV will come out, but this may remain in place until you are done with all of your testing for the day. Each patient is different, but you should plan to spend approximately an hour with us for your testing. Your ordering provider's office will contact you with your results in about 5 business days.