

Cardioversion

Below is information to prepare you for your cardioversion. Talk to your doctor if you have questions or concerns.

What is a cardioversion?

A cardioversion (DCCV) uses quick, low-energy shocks to bring the heart back to a regular rhythm and rate.

How is it done?

1. A trained anesthesiologist will put you to sleep (sedation). You will be asleep for the entire procedure.
2. Once asleep you will be cardioverted.
3. Once your heart is back to a regular rhythm and rate, sedation is stopped and you will slowly wake up.
4. You may be at the hospital for 2 to 3 hours the day of your test.

How do I get ready for the cardioversion?

Do	Do Not
<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Arrive 1 hour before your appointment.✓ Bring someone to drive you home the day of the procedure. If you do not have a driver, you will need to reschedule.✓ Take a shower the day before and shave your chest if you have a lot of hair.✓ If you wear glasses, bring a case for them.✓ Take all of your medicines as you normally do unless you are told otherwise.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✗ Do not eat or drink 8 hours before the procedure, except for sips of water to take any medicine.✗ Do not put lotion or oil on your chest or stomach.✗ Do not have any alcohol 24 hours before the procedure.✗ Do not bring any jewelry or valuables.

If you have diabetes:

You will get specific instructions from the nurse that calls you before your procedure. Check with the doctor that prescribes your diabetes medicine to make sure it is okay to change how you take it for this test.

Is it safe?

The procedure is widely done and safe. A medical professional will explain the procedure, risks, and benefits.

What if I need to cancel or reschedule?

- Try to cancel at least 48 hours before your appointment, if possible.
- If you do not have a driver to and from the hospital on the day of the procedure, you will have to reschedule.