

Impedance Cardiography (ICG) Test



ICG is being used by leading physicians around the world to help assess, diagnose, and treat patients with:

- **Heart Failure**
- **Shortness of Breath**
- **High Blood Pressure**
- **A Pacemaker**



What is the ICG Test?

The ICG test is a completely noninvasive test that can be performed in either a physician's office or hospital setting. The test provides your physician information about your heart's ability to deliver blood to the rest of your body, the force your heart has to pump against with each heartbeat, and the amount of fluid in your chest.

In a physician's office, the ICG test does not replace any tests that your physician is currently performing. Many patients are familiar with the ECG (or EKG) test, which measures the electrical function of the heart. The ICG test measures the mechanical function of the heart and provides different information than an ECG.

In the hospital, the ICG test provides some of the same information that a physician may receive from a right-heart catheterization (also known as pulmonary artery catheterization), which is usually done in the operating room or intensive care area. Because the ICG test is noninvasive, it can be performed anywhere in the hospital.

Please note: A right heart catheterization should not be confused with the left heart catheterization, which is performed to determine coronary artery vessel blockage.



Why Would I Need the ICG Test?

If you are being treated in the physician's office and have heart failure, high blood pressure, shortness of breath, a pacemaker, or are on any cardiac drugs, then the ICG test may provide helpful information for your physician to make decisions about your drug therapy or pacemaker settings.

Your physician will use ICG measurements to trend changes over time and may repeat the ICG test during subsequent office visits.

In the hospital, ICG monitoring may be used in the emergency department, operating room, intensive care unit, or any patient care area to assist your physician in his or her assessment and treatment of your condition.

You can discuss with your physician whether the ICG test is right for you.

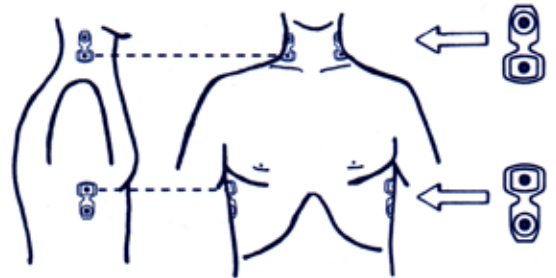
What Happens During the ICG Test?

The ICG test is completely safe and will not cause you to feel any different during the test.

Sensors are placed on each side of your neck and chest. A cable from the ICG monitor will then be connected to the sensors. Information about your height, weight, and age will be entered into the ICG monitor. Your ICG measurements will be taken as you lie down on your back and remain still for two to five minutes. During this time you should not talk or cough.

When the test is complete, your ICG report will be printed for your physician to review and the cable and sensors will be removed.

Your physician will explain the results of the test to you and answer any questions that you have.



Will My Insurance Pay for the ICG Test?

In some circumstances the test may be covered. Your physician's staff can discuss this with you.