

TEE TRANSESOPHAGEAL ECHOCARDIOGRAM

A TEE is an ultrasound of your heart that is done using an echo transducer that is inserted into your mouth, down your throat and into your esophagus. Because your esophagus is close to your heart, the doctor is able to obtain clear images of your heart's structures, valves and function.

TEE can help the doctor see:

- Size of your heart and thickness of its walls
- How well your heart is pumping
- Any abnormal tissue around your valves that could indicate bacterial, viral or fungal infections
- If any blood clots are present in the chambers of your heart

After a TEE:

- Your throat may be a little sore
- You may have trouble swallowing but this goes away after a few hours
- Because you are given sedating medication for the procedure don't drive or drink alcohol for 24 hours afterwards

When should I call the doctor?

- If your sore throat gets worse or doesn't go away after a few days
- Fever >100F