

ELECTROCARDIOGRAM

An EKG is a very safe procedure. It can be easily done in almost any setting.

Why do you need an EKG? An EKG is a diagnostic tool to evaluate the electrical activity of the heart; electrical impulses are what cause the heart to pump. The EKG can be helpful in diagnosing acute myocardial infarctions (active heart attack), prior myocardial infarctions (old heart attack), and determining heart arrhythmias (abnormal heart rhythm.) the KEG is usually performed in the office setting with the onset of new symptoms or as part of your cardiac examination.

There is no special preparation for this type of test. Leads (wires) are attached to your arms, legs and chest with electrodes (small patches) that are connected to an EKG machine. You will need to remain still for a brief minute or two. The electrodes are then removed.

Your cardiologist will discuss with you and decide, based on your current health condition, which test is right for you.