You are scheduled for a Multi-gated Acquisition (MUGA) scan on: ________________ at ________________

Please report to DCAM 5H 20 minutes before your appointment time to register for the test.

ABOUT THE TEST
A MUGA scan is performed to look at how well the chambers of your heart are working. A small sample of your blood will be taken, labeled with a radioactive tracer, and injected back into you. The amount of radioactivity is small and well within limits that are safe. The test usually takes about one and a half hours.

NOTE: Patients who are pregnant or may be pregnant should consult their physician before having this test.

PREPARATION FOR THE TEST
There is no preparation is needed for this test.

HOW IS THE TEST PERFORMED?
When you arrive at the Heart Station, a nuclear medicine technologist will confirm your identity and ask you questions about your medical history. He/She will then explain the test to you and answer any questions you may have. The technologist will start a small intravenous line (IV) in your hand or arm and withdraw a small amount of blood. The blood will be labeled with a radioactive tracer, which takes about 30 minutes. After the blood is labeled the technologist will inject the blood back into you through the IV. The technologist will have you lie down on an imaging table under a special camera and will place electrocardiogram (EKG) patches on your chest. The technologist will take three images of your heart from different angles. It is important that you lay very still while the images are being taken.

AFTER THE TEST
You may resume your normal activities and diet after the test. A Nuclear Medicine physician will interpret the exam and the results will be sent to the ordering physician. If you have any questions about the procedure or cannot keep the appointment, please call the Nuclear Cardiology scheduling staff at 773-795-7056.