When does my doctor get the results?

Your GP will receive a letter from the cardiologist that assessed you within 24 hours of your appointment. This letter will include details of the clinical assessment, your Framingham risk score of heart disease, 12-lead ECG report, results of any tests performed at the time of RACPC visit, and a provisional diagnosis of the cause of chest pain with follow-up and management recommendations.

An additional copy of this letter may also be sent to any other doctors who may be involved in your care at your request.

On the day of the clinic, the cardiologist will be more than happy to discuss all aspects of the clinic visit and subsequent care with you.

Some useful websites

- MonashHeart
  www.monashheart.org.au

- Patient Information
  www.heartfoundation.org.au

Please use this space to write down any questions you may have:

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What is the Rapid Assessment Chest Pain Clinic?

The Rapid Assessment Chest Pain Clinic (RACPC) is a new innovation in care designed to provide you with rapid access to a leading cardiologist in order to assess your chest pain in a timely and efficient way. If you have chest pains or symptoms that are likely or possibly due to a heart problem, you will be seen in the RACPC within three to five days of your initial contact. This client/patient focussed streamlined clinic provides unparalleled access to specialist consultation, investigation, diagnosis and treatment to improve the whole experience and allay frustration and stress associated with the usual delays.

Why do I need review at RACPC?

Your general practitioner (GP) or emergency department doctor has referred you to the RACPC as it believed that your symptoms, such as chest pain and/or shortness of breath, maybe due to a heart condition such as coronary artery disease. These symptoms include:

- New onset chest pain, tightness or discomfort
- Increasing frequency chest pain, tightness or discomfort
- Change in pattern of chest pain, tightness or discomfort
- Chest pain, tightness or discomfort with associated shortness of breath.

How do I prepare?

There is no special preparation for the RACPC. However, we do suggest that you do not have tea or coffee two hours before arriving at the clinic, just in case further tests which require fasting of tea and coffee are recommended at the time of your clinic visit.

What do I bring?

Checklist of things to bring to the clinic:

- your Medicare card
- list of current medications or the medications themselves
- GP details (name, address, telephone number)
- relevant blood test results or scans (if available)
- private health insurance details (if applicable)
- your pension or veteran affairs card (if applicable)

What can I expect?

Evaluation in the MonashHeart RACPC will involve:

- Initial contact with a cardiac technologist who will record your height, weight, heart rate and blood pressure as well as perform a 12-lead electrocardiogram (ECG)
- Clinical assessment by a consultant cardiologist who will take your medical history, perform a physical examination, determine your risk of having heart disease and make recommendations for any cardiac tests or procedures that may be required. These tests and procedures will be performed at the next available appointment time. If the cardiologist believes that tests need to be performed urgently, they will be performed on the same day.

Your review at the RACPC should take 30 minutes, but if any further tests or procedures are recommended on the same day, this will require extra time to undergo these. For example, an exercise stress test will take at least 30 minutes, and a cardiac CT scan will take approximately two hours.

There is no cost associated with the RACPC, it is fully bulk billed.

What are the risks?

There are no risks associated with attendance at the RACPC. However, there may be very small risks associated with some cardiac tests and procedures that may be recommended for you. These risks will be discussed with you at the time of the subsequent test and or procedure.

I support MonashHeart, Monash Health in providing leading care to cardiac patients of all ages.

(Donations of $2 or more are tax deductible ABN 82 142 080 338)

♥ I enclose a cheque/money order made payable to MonashHeart, Monash Health for: $...............................

♥ Please debit my credit/debit card for: $...............................

Card Nos: ..................................................

Expiry: / ..............................................

Cardholders Name: ..........................................................

Cardholders Signature: ..........................................................

Receipt sent to: Name: ..........................................................

Address: ................................................................

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Is your donation a gift in memory? Yes No

In memory of: ..........................................................

Acknowledgement should be sent to next of kin:

Name: ..........................................................

Address: ................................................................

I give MonashHeart the option of publishing my name in recognition of my support

Here’s how to make your gift:

Call: 1300 MHEART Fax: 03 9594 6030

Post: complete and return this coupon to: Fundraising, MonashHeart, Monash Health, Locked Bag 29, Clayton South 3169

Thank you for supporting MonashHeart