

Cardiovascular Tests and Procedures

Overview of Cardiovascular Tests and Procedures

Many **noninvasive** and **invasive** tests can **delineate** cardiac structure and function. Also, treatments can be administered during certain invasive diagnostic tests (eg, percutaneous coronary intervention during cardiac catheterization, radiofrequency **ablation** during **electrophysiologic testing**).

Table 1

Tests for Assessing Cardiac Anatomy and Function	
Application	Tests
Left ventricular function	Echocardiography Multiple-gated acquisition (MUGA) radionuclide imaging Gated MRI Contrast ventriculography
Coronary artery disease diagnosis and prognosis	Exercise or pharmacologic stress testing with ECG, myocardial perfusion imaging , or echocardiography Magnetic resonance angiography Coronary angiography Intravascular ultrasonography Multidetector CT coronary angiography
Myocardial viability	Resting single-photon emission CT (SPECT) myocardial perfusion imaging Stress testing (using low-dose dobutamine) with echocardiography Positron emission tomography (PET) Gated MRI

Reference: <http://www.merckmanuals.com>