

Nontuberculous Mycobacterium (NTM) Negative Screen

Today you underwent testing in the clinic related to the nontuberculous mycobacterium (NTM)/heater-cooler advisory. In rare cases use of heater-cooler devices during heart surgery may lead to an infection called Nontuberculous Mycobacteria (NTM).

Your screening today was negative. While this is reassuring, you are still at risk for NTM. In the future, if you have any of the below symptoms for longer than 1 week, please call your primary care doctor, Cardiac surgeon or Cardiologist as additional mycobacterial blood cultures or other testing may be required.

When should I contact my doctor?

If you have any of the symptoms below for longer than one week, please call your primary care doctor, cardiologist, or cardiac surgeon's office:

- Fevers
- Chills
- Drenching night sweats
- Pain, redness or drainage from your incision
- Unexplained fatigue
- Poor weight gain/weight loss
- Unexplained vision changes or "floaters" in visual field
- Muscle aches
- Bone pain, swollen joints, or swollen glands
- Any other unexplainable symptoms

What is the contact information?

If at any time you have any further questions, please call

Department of Cardiac Surgery

- Adult cardiac surgery clinic: 1(888) 287 - 1082, choose prompt #4.
- Pediatric cardiology clinic: (734) 764 - 5176.

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