

ECHOCARDIOGRAPHY (Cardiac Ultrasound, 2-Dimension Cardiac Doppler and Color Flow Mapping)



PATIENT NAME: _____

APPOINTMENT DATE: _____ **APPOINTMENT TIME:** _____

Please note, you should allow 1 hour for completion of this test.

PURPOSE: An echocardiogram is a diagnostic technique which uses high frequency sound waves to visualize the heart on a monitor. Motion, such as the heart beating or the flow of blood through the heart and adjacent arteries and veins, can be observed. The test provides information about your heart valves, the strength, motion and thickness of your heart muscle, as well as, the size of your heart chambers.

2-Dimensional Echocardiogram

The 2-Dimensional Echocardiogram is the most widely used ultrasound procedure. Images on the screen are used to evaluate many aspects of the heart including the size of the heart chambers, the pumping motion of the heart muscle and the functioning of the heart valves.

Cardiac Doppler and Color Flow Mapping

This test is performed in conjunction with the 2-Dimensional Echocardiogram and allows the Cardiologist to determine the speed and direction of blood flow through the heart and the function of the heart valve.

PROCEDURE:

1. You will be asked to remove your clothing from the waist up and to wear a gown which opens in the front.
2. You will be asked to lie on an exam table on your side. You may be asked to lie in various positions during the test.
3. A highly trained technician will lubricate a transducer with gel and will place it on various areas of your chest. The special gel permits the high frequency sounds waves to pass from the transducer to the heart.
4. The sound waves are reflected off the heart and will be used to create an image on the screen. This image is observed and recorded for the cardiologist to interpret.
5. Electrodes will be attached to your chest to record a simultaneous electrocardiogram (EKG) to monitor the rhythm of your heart and heart rate.



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6. The results of your test will be carefully reviewed and interpreted by the Cardiologist. The Care Group makes every effort to provide results of your test to your referring physician within a 24-hour period.

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. It is important that you are on time for your test. If you need to cancel, please call: 317-338-6666 or 800-732-1484 and ask for diagnostic scheduling.
2. You may eat and drink before your test.
3. You may take your medications the day of the procedure.
4. You may drive home after the procedure.

