

FACT SHEET:

Echocardiography



What is echocardiography?

Echocardiography (echo) is the name given to the ultrasound examination of your heart. It assesses the structure and function of your heart muscles and valves. It is a test in which high frequency sound waves are used to create a moving picture of your heart.

How do I prepare for echocardiography?

No preparation is required for this examination.

What happens during the echocardiology?

During your appointment, the scan will be conducted by a Sonographer. The Sonographer will put a probe on your chest and move it around to gather relevant information relating to your heart's structures and function.

The results will be reviewed by either a Radiologist or Cardiologist. From their findings, they will send your doctor a detailed report.

Are there any side effects of the echocardiology?

Usually, you can resume your normal daily activities after an echocardiogram. Treatment depends on what's found during the exam and your specific signs and symptoms.

How long does the examination take?

The scanning time will be approximately 40 minutes, though this time may vary depending upon the findings.



What are the risks of echocardiology?

An echocardiogram is an ultrasound examination that is very safe to perform.

What are the benefits of echocardiology?

A major benefit of the echocardiogram is that it provides information about the heart's structures and function. The information gained from the echocardiogram gives an accurate diagnoses and allows your doctor to develop a treatment plan that is best for you.