



# ECHOCARDIOGRAPHY



PLEASE SCAN FOR  
THE LOCATION

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## DEPARTMENTS

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DIGITAL VERSION

## WHAT IS ECHOCARDIOGRAPHY?

• Echocardiography is a non-invasive procedure which uses ultrasound waves to generate images of the heart. It can be done as an outpatient service. It is a painless bedside procedure with no side effects.

This test is done in the following situations:

- If you have chest pain
- If you have a heart murmur
- If you had a heart attack
- If you have unexplained chest pains
- If you had history of rheumatic fever
- To evaluate hearts pumping efficiency
- If you have congenital heart defect
- Assess heart valves & defects
- If your doctor suspects heart disease

## HOW IS IT DONE?

- Doctor will put special gel on a probe and move it over your chest area
- Your heart's movements can be seen on screen
- It usually takes less than 15-20 minutes

Sometimes the probe needs to be closer to your heart to give clearer pictures. In this case you may need a special test called Transesophageal echocardiography.

## WHAT WILL THE ECHOCARDIOGRAPHY SHOW?

- The size and shape of your heart
- How well your heart is working overall
- If a wall or section of the heart muscle is weak and not working correctly
- If you have problems with your heart's valves
- If you have a blood clot
- If there is fluid around the heart

## WARNING SIGNS OF HEART ATTACK:

- Chest discomfort
- Discomfort in other areas of the upper body
- Shortness of breath with or without chest discomfort
- Cold sweat, nausea or light headedness
- Sudden loss of consciousness

## WARNING SIGNS OF STROKE:

- Sudden weakness or numbness of

the face, arm or leg, especially on one side of the body

- Sudden confusion, trouble speaking or understanding
- Sudden trouble in seeing in one or both eyes
- Sudden trouble walking, dizziness, loss of balance or co-ordination
- Sudden severe headache with no known cause
- If you are a diabetic or hypertensive you have more risk of heart or brain attack, so consult your doctor on his/her advice and learn more about warning signs of heart of brain attack.

