



Echocardiogram

How does the procedure work?

In medicine, ultrasound is used to detect changes in appearance of organs, tissues, and vessels or detect abnormal masses, such as tumors.

How is the procedure performed?

For this ultrasound exam, the patient is positioned lying on their left side on an examination table. This may take up to an hour for the exam. **Some studies do require an IV to be started.**

What will I experience during and after the procedure? Most ultrasound examinations are painless, fast and easy.

After you are positioned on the examination table, the sonographer will apply some warm water-based gel on your skin and then place the transducer firmly against your body, moving it back and forth over the area of interest until the desired images are captured. Once the imaging is complete, the gel will be wiped off your skin.

If scanning is performed over an area of tenderness, you may feel pressure or minor pain from the transducer. Please let the technologist know if you are uncomfortable during the exam.

A Doppler ultrasound study is performed, you will actually hear pulse-like sounds that change in pitch as the blood flow is monitored and measured. After an ultrasound examination, you should be able to resume your normal activities immediately.

Who interprets the results and how do I get them? A physician specifically trained to supervise and interpret radiology examinations, will analyze the images. The technician is unable to determine or interpret results.

Family members or guests are not typically allowed in the testing area and may remain in the waiting area just outside of the testing area. If your guest is allowed in the testing area, it is important that they remain seated quietly and do not interrupt the study. **Absolutely NO CHILDREN** will be allowed in the exam area. Please plan accordingly.

Cell phones are not allowed in the testing area.

As a courtesy, we will contact your insurance for the authorization/certification of your appointment/testing. We recommend that you call your insurance to verify what portion of your deductible has been met and any out of pocket expenses you have paid. This will enable you to know the amount, if any, you are responsible for at the time of service.

Please arrive 15 minutes prior to your appointment

It is important that you arrive in a timely fashion and prepared for your test. Tardiness may result in rescheduling so that other patients are not inconvenienced. If you request or your insurance requires you to have testing at another facility, we would be happy to help arrange this test at your preferred provider's location.

Date, Time of Test: _____

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