

ECHOCARDIOGRAM

What is an Echocardiogram?

An Echocardiogram is a noninvasive test using ultrasound or sound waves to produce an image of the internal structures of the heart. A technician applies gel to the exterior chest wall, then uses a wand-like transducer is moved across the chest creating two-dimensional images of the heart muscle and valves. This test evaluates the size, pumping strength and function of the heart muscle and valves.

How do I prepare for an Echocardiogram?

- You may shower or bathe the morning of your test. You may use deodorant. Please avoid using lotion on your chest.
- Take your usual medications unless otherwise instructed by your physician.
- It is ok to eat before this test.

What can I expect during an Echocardiogram?

- When you arrive, you will receive an explanation of the procedure.
- Three ECG electrodes will be placed on your chest to monitor your heart during the test.
- This technician will apply gel to your chest. A handheld transducer is placed on the chest and moved over the chest to obtain the ultrasound images of your heart.



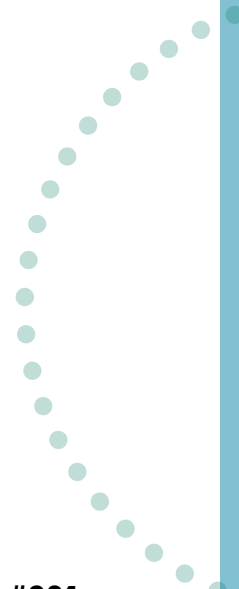
Procedure Time

The Test will take approximately one hour

Procedure Risks

- There are no known risks from an ultrasound.
- If you have questions or concerns regarding this test, please talk with the doctor ordering this test.

Test Results

- The results of your test will be reviewed by a cardiologist within 24 hours after the test.
 - A final report will be given to your doctor, who will inform you of the findings.
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454 Old Street Road, Suite #201

Peterborough, NH 03458

P: (603) 924-4646

F: (877) 673-1404