

Information about an Echocardiogram (Echo)

What is an Echocardiogram (Echo)?

It is an ultrasound scan of your heart, a painless procedure. There are no known significant risks or side effects.

Why is it done?

It allows the heart to be visualised on a monitor screen. The cardiac Physiologist or Doctor will gain important information about the anatomy and function of the heart muscles and valves.

How is it done?

You will be given a gown and asked to undress from the waist up.

A probe with cold gel is placed on the chest.

You will be asked to lie on your left side with your left arm raised.

The room may be darkened and there may be some sounds heard from the machine.

The echocardiogram takes around 20-30 minutes.

The Cardiac Physiologist or Doctor will answer any doubts or queries you may have about the test.

Results

The results will be sent to the Doctor who referred you for the test.