



We can provide interpreters for a variety of languages, information in larger print or other formats (e.g. audio) - please call us on 01932 723553.

To use the Text Relay service, prefix all numbers with 18001.

اگر نیاز به ترجمہ دارید، لطفاً با شماره 01932 723553 تماس بگیرید۔

ने उगाठु उरामे दी लेंड वै उं विरध करके इस नंबर से बोलें करे: 01932 723553

اگر آپ اس کا اردو زبان میں ترجمہ چاہتے ہیں، تو براہ کرم اس فون نمبر 01932 723553 پر رابطہ کریں

Se precisa de uma tradução por favor contacte: 01932 723553

আপনার অনুবাদের দরকার হলে এখানে যোগাযোগ করুন : 01932 723553

यदि आपको अनुवाद की ज़रूरत है तो कृपया इस नंबर पर फोन करें: 01932 723553

Jeżeli chcemy, aby te informacje w innym języku, proszę zadzwonić 01932 723553

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Echocardiogram

Cardio-Respiratory Department



What is an Echocardiogram?

An echocardiogram (echo) is a painless procedure that uses ultrasound to produce moving images of your heart. It is a useful test for checking the structure of your heart and to see how well it is functioning.

How do I prepare for the test?

You may wish to wear loose clothing that can be easily removed.

What does the test involve?

Please ask a member of staff if you require a chaperone during your appointment.

You will be asked to remove your clothes to your waist and put on a hospital gown (if required). You will be required to lie on your back on your left side. Three sticky electrodes will be attached to your chest.

An ultrasound probe with ultrasound gel is placed onto your chest to get a moving picture of your heart. Harmless high-frequency sounds are produced near the skin. You will not feel anything and the sound waves will not affect your body in any way. They go through the skin, bounce back from part of the heart, and produce an echo that comes back to the probe. You may feel a gentle pressure around the chest and in the abdomen area from the ultrasound probe. The procedure is carried out in hospital by a cardiologist or by a cardiac physiologist trained in the procedure.

How long will the test take?

The test will usually take 30-40 minutes but can sometimes take longer.

What happens after the test?

The results will be sent to the Consultant who requested the test. The results will be reviewed and a letter will be sent to your General Practitioner (GP) advising them of the results. You will receive a copy of this letter. This may take 2-4 weeks. If you have not received your letter within 6 weeks, please contact your GP.

Further Information

We endeavor to provide an excellent service at all times, but should you have any concerns please, in the first instance, raise these with the Matron, Senior Nurse or Manager on duty. If they cannot resolve your concern, please contact our Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) on 01932 723553 or email pals@asph.nhs.uk. If you remain concerned, PALS can also advise upon how to make a formal complaint.

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